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DEBATES OF THE LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY OF  
UNITED CANADA

Volume XII

Part I

1854 - 1855

1982







DEBATES OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF UNITED CANADA  
1841-1867

Published under the direction of the  
Centre d'étude du Québec  
and the  
Centre de recherche en histoire économique et sociale du Québec (CHE)

General Editor  
*Elizabeth Abbott Gibbs*

DEBATES OF THE LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY OF  
UNITED CANADA

Volume XII, Part I  
1854 - 1855

Edited by  
*Elizabeth Abbott Gibbs*  
*Murray McGillivray*

CENTRE DE RECHERCHE EN HISTOIRE ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIALE DU QUEBEC (CHE)  
5255, avenue Decelles, Montréal, Québec H3T 1V6



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CENTRE D'ETUDE DU QUEBEC  
Room N205-13, Sir George Williams of Concordia University  
Montréal, Québec  
H3G 1M8

Director: *Cameron Nish*  
Associate Director: *Jean Hamelin*  
Research Director: *Elizabeth Abbott Gibbs*

CENTRE DE RECHERCHE EN HISTOIRE ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIALE  
DU QUEBEC (CHE)  
5255, avenue Decelles  
Montréal, Québec  
H3T 1V6

Directeur: *Pierre Harvey*  
Directeur de la recherche: *Cameron Nish*

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\*Centre de recherche en histoire économique et sociale du Québec (CHE)

## INTRODUCTION

The Introduction to the first Volume of this series, DEBATES OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF UNITED CANADA, 1841, included a history of parliamentary reporting in Britain, Upper and Lower Canada, and of course Union Canada. Parliamentary reporting was both an institution inextricably bound up with Parliament, and a profession under the patronage of the commercial Press. Its constitutional and practical development was traced, including the influences of the ancestral British system upon its derivative Canadian transplants. In the Chapters dealing specifically with the Canadas, the local conditions modifying the original British model were discussed in detail. The most important of these were: the bilingualism of the Lower and United Canada Legislatures; the political biases of parliamentary reporters who also lacked stenographic skills; and poor accommodations and worse acoustics in the House. The result of all this was that on the whole, Canadian parliamentary reporters were limited to providing third person summaries of the speeches. Essentially, parliamentary reporting was a politically-oriented profession which was also an integral part of the world of journalism.

All kinds of data about parliamentary reporting as an institution and as a profession were considered: the policies of its newspaper patrons; its techniques; the skills and foibles of its personnel; and the problems such as accommodation in the legislative buildings faced by the reporters. The other record of parliamentary proceedings, the official JOURNALS, was also analysed. On the basis of this analysis of reports and JOURNALS, a methodology was elaborated which involved collating the reports and integrating them into the JOURNALS.\* The object of that methodology was to produce a verisimilar record of the parliamentary debates and proceedings. Since verbatim reporting was virtually unknown, verisimilitude was the only possible goal. Various problems were anticipated and their solutions incorporated into the methodology. Each methodological step was explained and then implemented, thus producing the Canadian HANSARD.

The theoretical methodology remains unchanged for reconstructing the debates of the years following 1841, with only minor changes in practical application. The most important change from one year to the next is the basic source material, the newspapers containing the parliamentary reports. For the session of 1854\*\* twenty-two newspapers were consulted, the chief characteristics of which are described in the following table.

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\*In this way the entire texts of the JOURNALS are reproduced in the reconstructed HANSARD. Also included are references to Appendices to the JOURNALS, although these Appendices, often volumes long, are not reproduced in this work, nor mentioned in our Index.

\*\*The table for 1854 is given separately from that of 1855 which will be found in Volume XII, Part IV. The Subject Index alone is common to these two sessions.



NEWSPAPER	DISTRICT, SECTION	LANGUAGE	POLITICAL ORIENTATION	WEEKLY DISTRIBUTION	ORIGIN OF REPORTS
EXAMINER	Toronto, U.C.	English	Reform	Once	Paraphrased U.C. newspapers.
GLOBE	Toronto, U.C.	English	Radical reform	Daily	Original or copied L.C. newspapers.
HAMILTON DAILY SPECTATOR	Hamilton, U.C.	English	Conservative	Daily	Copied U.C. and L.C. newspapers.
HAMILTON GAZETTE	Hamilton, U.C.	English	Conservative	Twice	Often copied from HAMILTON DAILY SPECTATOR and other newspapers.
LA MINERVE	Montréal, L.C.	French	Conservative	Three times	Sometimes original or copied LE CANADIEN or translated L.C. newspapers.
LE PAYS	Montréal, L.C.	French	Radical reform	Three times	Often original, sometimes translated from L.C. newspapers.
MACKENZIE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE	Toronto, U.C.	English	Radical reform	Once	Sometimes original, sometimes copied.
MONTREAL GAZETTE	Montréal, L.C.	English	Conservative	Daily	Original.
MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT	Montréal, L.C.	English	Conservative	Daily	Copied other L.C. newspapers.
NIAGARA CHRONICLE	Niagara, U.C.	English	Conservative	Once	Paraphrased from various newspapers.
NIAGARA MAIL	Niagara, U.C.	English	Reform	Once	Short original reports, or copied L.C. newspapers.
NORTH AMERICAN	Toronto, U.C.	English	Radical reform	Once	Often copied GLOBE or L.C. newspapers.
OTTAWA CITIZEN	Ottawa, U.C.	English	Reform	Once	Paraphrased from various newspapers.
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES (SCRAPBOOK HANSARD)	-----	English	-----	Daily	Selected daily by Parliamentary Librarian from various U.C. and L.C. newspapers.
PERTH COURIER (1834-57 BATHURST COURIER)	Perth, U.C.	English	Reform	Once	Copied.
PILOT	Montréal, L.C.	English	Reform	Daily	Sometimes original, often copied from MONTREAL GAZETTE or paraphrased from other newspapers.
PORT HOPE GUIDE	Port Hope, U.C.	English	("measures not men")	Once	Copied.
QUEBEC GAZETTE	Québec, L.C.	English	Moderate conservative	Three times	Copied or paraphrased from MORNING CHRONICLE.
QUEBEC MORNING CHRONICLE	Québec, L.C.	English	Conservative	Daily	Original.
SHERBROOKE GAZETTE	Sherbrooke, L.C.	English	Reform	Once	Sometimes original, sometimes copied from L.C. newspapers.
TORONTO DAILY LEADER	Toronto, U.C.	English	Reform	Daily	Original.
WESTERN PLANET	Chatham, U.C.	English	Conservative	Once	Copied U.C. and L.C. newspapers, on rare occasions provided original accounts of individual speeches.

The reasons for including such newspapers as the EXAMINER, the NORTH AMERICAN, the PILOT, and the PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES (Scrapbook Hansard) were explained in detail in the Introduction to Volume I. Briefly, they printed parliamentary reports collated from various available sources. Thus they provide a check against missing debates from single issues or even entire newspaper runs which have not been preserved.

The technique used to footnote the collated debates does more than identify the sources from which material is drawn. The footnotes also explain any variations in the methodology, and give certain details useful for understanding the debates. There are five main rules for footnotes. 1) The transcribed text of each speaker's words is identified. When alternate texts are presented, the sources for each text are given. When a single speech has been reconstructed from reports in more than one newspaper, the source of each specific portion of the speech is identified. 2) For the final session of the Fourth Parliament, which was held in June 1854, all alternate sources which have been consulted but not selected are noted, except for reports which merely copied the JOURNALS. Included in the alternate sources mentioned are those papers whose reports were either copied, edited or paraphrased from another paper, with the original source noted. At the beginning of the Fifth Parliament on September 5, 1854, alternate sources consulted but not selected are not included in the footnotes, although comparisons of various reports are still made to determine which have been copied, edited or paraphrased from another report. The original source is used to reconstruct the debate, except where it is illegible; in such cases an identical alternate source is used for all or part of any debate or speech. 3) Commentaries on the debate in question are noted, and when deemed of special significance, are transcribed verbatim. 4) The footnotes include any additional information necessary to explain the methodology adopted in dealing with situations which do not conform to any of the models described. 5) One of this project's fundamental assumptions is that the JOURNALS' account of proceedings was correct though not always complete. However, there are occasional discrepancies between the JOURNALS and the newspaper reports. These discrepancies are always noted. For example, sometimes the names of movers and seconders are different in the newspapers and the JOURNALS. In these cases the names cited by the newspaper are listed in a footnote.

The Appendices to each day's proceedings are entirely supplementary to the JOURNALS. The Appendices contain: 1) notices of motions for bills, Addresses, etc.; 2) notices of questions; 3) questions and answers; 4) debates on withdrawn and postponed motions; 5) other announcements or discussions which are not recorded in the JOURNALS and which cannot be placed in the body of the debates. A substantial part of the Appendices consists of notices of motions. The third category in the Appendices is for questions and answers. Despite their importance, they were not recorded in the JOURNALS unless incorporated into a formal motion or address. All questions and answers reported in the newspapers are included in the Appendix for the appropriate day. Debates on withdrawn motions, fully reported in our Appendices, are interesting because they appear nowhere in any official record, and would otherwise be lost to posterity. On some occasions newspapers record conversations or asides which are not directly related to business before the Assembly. These too are always included in the Appendices.

The technical forms used remain essentially unchanged from those of preceding volumes: 1) The spelling of speakers' names at the opening of each individual speech is standardized. Changes from the spelling in the newspaper



are not noted. The names most commonly misspelled in newspapers are Clark instead of Clarke; McNab, Macnab, M'Nab instead of MacNab; McKenzie instead of Mackenzie; and various spellings of Macdonald. All spelling of names within a speech is left unchanged, however. 2) In some accounts of a particular speech the speaker will not be distinguished from others with the same surname, for instance in the case of the Messrs. Smith. The account may be introduced simply "Mr. Smith spoke". If another newspaper that is not being used to reconstruct the speech indicates the individual, either by using an initial or stating his constituency, and provides a very similar speech, the distinction is made in the text of the debate without crediting the source. Speeches where the individual speaker cannot be identified other than by his surname are indexed in the Proper Names Index to all persons bearing that name, and a (?) follows the page number. 3) Whenever a member was reported to have spoken in English or in French, this fact is noted. For example, "Mr. Cauchon (in French)", whether or not there exists a report of the speech in the language of delivery. 4) A system of double pagination is used. The parenthesised page numbers in italic type on the left-hand side refer to the page of the JOURNALS while the centered number is our own. 5) Three of the newspapers are referred to by a more commonly known name or by an abbreviated form: the Bathurst Courier is called the Perth Courier; the Morning Chronicle and Commercial and Shipping Gazette is called the Quebec Morning Chronicle; and the Sherbrooke Gazette and Township Advertiser, also called the Sherbrooke Gazette and Eastern Townships Advertiser, is called the Sherbrooke Gazette. 6) The various parentheses used in the newspapers are represented in our text by ( ). The square brackets contain our own comments, explanatory notes or suggestions. 7) Words such as "expenche", "controul", "surprize", and "tems", which were misspelled as often as not, are reproduced without the word (sic). 8) When, for the sake of clarity, we must interpolate a word, we stay as close as possible to the usual style of the newspaper. 9) When it is necessary to reconstruct a sentence from excerpts drawn from more than one source, the problem of punctuation becomes acute. The strict application of ellipsis, added to the necessary footnote number, is both unwieldy and difficult to assimilate at first reading. As a result, another means of expressing the ellipsis had to be devised. A simple method was adopted, which is also used in sentences which are not reproduced in full, but are cut off before the end. Appropriate punctuation integrates the various excerpts, replacing the awkward ellipses. This editorially imposed punctuation is indicated by the simple expedient of placing the footnote reference immediately following the text, but before our punctuation. Conversely, whenever a footnote follows punctuation, that punctuation has been reproduced from the text of the newspaper. For example, the sentence "SIR A. MACNAB said that he would go to town....<sup>1</sup> he meant to the town of Three Rivers....<sup>2</sup> as soon as possible....<sup>3</sup>" becomes "SIR A. MACNAB said that he would go to town<sup>1</sup>, he meant to the town of Three Rivers<sup>2</sup>, as soon as possible<sup>3</sup>."

The style and methodology are designed in all ways to achieve the goal of a verisimilar account of the debates of the Legislative Assembly. The texts are completely unretouched; even grammatical and spelling errors remain uncorrected. One of the reasons for this decision to sacrifice style to fidelity was that the reader or student can best use his own judgment if he has the original material before him. He can then decide how to use the material: he can reproduce it exactly, or he can edit it and improve upon its style in whatever way he judges most appropriate. The only editing imposed upon the work has never been for purposes of literary style, but only to render collated passages less disjointed, truncated and confusing. The criterion is never that a passage



was awkwardly phrased, but rather that it was incoherent. For example, even the habitual tense changes are never altered to make them consistent so that not infrequently speakers in one debate are reported each in a different tense. In a fairly typical debate, "MR. INSP. GEN. CAYLEY thinks" while "CAPT. RHODES said" and "MR. A. DORION had opposed". The real editing work occurs in the earlier stage of the work, when the passages here reproduced as the reconstructed debates are selected. Therefore all elegancies of language are gratuitous, and such texts are invariably selected for content and not because of the felicity with which they are expressed.

There is a separate Proper Names and Subject Index for the session of June 1854, which immediately follows the reconstructed debates in this part of Volume XII. For the sessions 1854 and 1855 there is a common Subject Index which will be contained at the end of the final part of Volume XII.

Tamara Dixon, Nicole Guérin, Kathleen McManus, Lise Malo and Johanne Ostiguy assisted in the production of this volume. The following pages are a testimony to their careful labour and patience.



EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS  
AND THEIR POSITIONS

FOURTH PARLIAMENT - SECOND SESSION  
FIFTH PARLIAMENT - FIRST SESSION - FIRST PART

CAMERON, Malcolm	
Member of Executive Council:	28 Oct. 1851 to 10 Sept. 1854
Postmaster General and Member of Board of Railway Commis- sioners:	17 Aug. 1853 to 10 Sept. 1854
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	11 Nov. 1852 to 10 Sept. 1854
CAYLEY, William	
Member of Executive Council, Inspector General, and Mem- ber of Board of Railway Com- missioners:	11 Sept. 1854 to 29 July 1858
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	3 Nov. 1854 to 28 July 1857
CHABOT, Jean	
Member of Executive Council, Chief Commissioner of Public Works, and Member of Board of Railway Commissioners:	23 Sept. 1852 to 26 Jan. 1855
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	20 Nov. 1852 to 26 Jan. 1855
CHAUVEAU, Pierre Joseph Olivier	
Member of Executive Council and Provincial Secretary:	31 Aug. 1853 to 26 Jan. 1855
DRUMMOND, Lewis Thomas	
Member of Executive Council and Attorney General (L.C.):	28 Oct. 1851 to 23 May 1856
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	20 Nov. 1852 to 23 May 1856
HINCKS, Francis	
Member of Executive Council and Inspector General:	11 March 1848 to 10 Sept. 1854
Member of Board of Railway Commissioners:	30 Aug. 1851 to 10 Sept. 1854
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	11 Nov. 1852 to 10 Sept. 1854
MACDONALD, John Alexander	
Member of Executive Council and Attorney General (U.C.):	11 Sept. 1854 to 29 July 1858



MACNAB, Sir Allan Napier	
Member and President of	
Executive Council and Minister of Agriculture:	11 Sept. 1854 to 23 May 1856
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	3 Nov. 1854 to 28 July 1857
MORIN, Augustin Norbert	
Member of Executive Council:	28 Oct. 1851 to 26 Jan. 1855
Commissioner of Crown Lands:	31 Aug. 1853 to 26 Jan. 1855
MORRIS, James*	
Member of Legislative Council:	27 Nov. 1844 to 29 Sept. 1865**
Member of Executive Council:	22 Feb. 1851 to 10 Sept. 1854
Speaker of Legislative Council:	17 Aug. 1853 to 10 Sept. 1854
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	11 Nov. 1852 to 10 Sept. 1854
ROLPH, John	
Member of Executive Council:	28 Oct. 1851 to 10 Sept. 1854
President of Executive Council and Minister of Agriculture:	17 Aug. 1853 to 10 Sept. 1854
ROSS, John*	
Member of Executive Council:	22 June 1853 to 18 April 1856
Attorney General (U.C.):	22 June 1853 to 10 Sept. 1854
Speaker of Legislative Council:	11 Sept. 1854 to 18 April 1856
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	11 Nov. 1852 to 28 July 1857
SPENCE, Robert	
Member of Executive Council, Postmaster General, and Member of Board of Railway Commissioners:	11 Sept. 1854 to 1 Feb. 1858
TACHE, Etienne Paschal*	
Member of Executive Council:	11 March 1848 to 25 Nov. 1857
Receiver General:	27 Nov. 1849 to 23 May 1856
Member of Legislative Council:	23 May 1848 to 30 July 1865
Member of Board of Railway Commissioners:	30 Aug. 1851 to 23 May 1856
Government Director of Grand Trunk Railway:	20 Nov. 1852 to 28 July 1857

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\* Hon. Messrs. Morris, Ross, and Taché did not hold seats in the Legislative Assembly in either the Fourth or the Fifth Parliament.

\*\* James Morris died on 29 Sept. 1865.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND  
THEIR CONSTITUENCIES

FOURTH PARLIAMENT, 2nd SESSION  
13 June 1854 to 22 June 1854

Badgley, William.....	Montreal, City, L.C.
Brown, George.....	Kent, U.C.
Burnham, Asa A. ....	Northumberland, U.C.
Cameron, Malcolm.....	Huron, U.C.
Cartier, Georges Etienne.....	Verchères, L.C.
Cauchon, Joseph Edouard.....	Montmorency, L.C.
Chabot, Jean.....	Bellechasse, L.C.
Chapais, Jean Charles.....	Kamouraska, L.C.
Chauveau, Pierre Joseph Olivier.....	Québec, County, L.C.
Christie, David.....	Wentworth, U.C.
Christie, Robert.....	Gaspé, L.C.
Clapham, John Greaves.....	Mégantic, L.C.
Crawford, George.....	Brockville, Town, U.C.
Delong, Jesse.....	Leeds, U.C.
Dixon, Thomas C. ....	London, Town, U.C.
Drummond, Lewis Thomas.....	Shefford, L.C.
Dubord, Hypolite.....	Québec, City, L.C.
Dumoulin, Pierre Benjamin.....	Yamaska, L.C.
Egan, John.....	Ottawa, County, L.C.
Fergusson, Adam Johnston.....	Waterloo, U.C.
Fortier, Thomas.....	Nicolet, L.C.
Fournier, Charles François.....	L'Islet, L.C.
Galt, Alexander Tilloch.....	Sherbrooke, Town, L.C.
Gamble, John William.....	York, South, U.C.
Gouin, Antoine Nemèse.....	Richelieu, L.C.
Hartman, Joseph.....	York, North, U.C.
Hincks, Francis.....	Oxford, Town, U.C.
Jobin, Joseph Hilarion.....	Berthier, L.C.
Johnson, Thomas Hall.....	Prescott, U.C.
Lacoste, Louis.....	Chambly, L.C.
Langton, John.....	Peterborough, U.C.
LaTerrière, Marc Pascal de Sales.....	Saguenay, L.C.
Laurin, Joseph.....	Lotbinière, L.C.
LeBlanc, Ovide.....	Beauharnois, L.C.
LeBoutillier, David.....	Bonaventure, L.C.
Lemieux, François.....	Dorchester, L.C.
Lyon, George Byron.....	Russell, U.C.
Macdonald, John Alexander.....	Kingston, City, U.C.
Macdonald, John Sandfield.....	Glengarry, U.C.
McDonald, Roderick.....	Cornwall, Town, U.C.
McDougall, John.....	Drummond, L.C.
Mackenzie, William Lyon.....	Haldimand, U.C.
McLachlin, Daniel.....	Bytown, U.C.
MacNab, Allan Napier.....	Hamilton, City, U.C.
Malloch, Edward.....	Carleton, U.C.

Marchildon, Thomas.....	Champlain, L.C.
Mattice, William.....	Stormont, U.C.
Merritt, William Hamilton.....	Lincoln, U.C.
Mongenais, Jean Baptiste.....	Vaudreuil, L.C.
Morin, Augustin Norbert.....	Terrebonne, L.C.
Morrison, Joseph Curran.....	Niagara, Town, U.C.
Murney, Edmund.....	Hastings, U.C.
Paige, Seneca.....	Missisquoi, L.C.
Papineau, Louis Joseph.....	Two Mountains, L.C.
Patrick, William.....	Grenville, U.C.
Polette, Antoine.....	Three Rivers, L.C.
Poulin, Joseph Napoléon.....	Rouville, L.C.
Prince, John.....	Essex, U.C.
Ridout, George Percival.....	Toronto, City, U.C.
Robinson, William Benjamin.....	Simcoe, U.C.
Rolph, John.....	Norfolk, U.C.
Rose, Jesse Wright.....	Dundas, U.C.
Sanborn, John Sewell.....	Sherbrooke, County, L.C.
Seymour, Benjamin.....	Lennox & Addington, U.C.
Shaw, James.....	Lanark, U.C.
Sherwood, Henry.....	Toronto, City, U.C.
Sicotte, Louis Victor.....	St. Hyacinthe, L.C.
Smith, Henry.....	Frontenac, U.C.
Smith, James.....	Durham, U.C.
Stevenson, David Barker.....	Prince Edward, U.C.
Street, Thomas Clark.....	Welland, U.C.
Stuart, George Okill.....	Québec, City, L.C.
Taché, Joseph Charles.....	Rimouski, L.C.
Terrill, Timothy Lee.....	Stanstead, L.C.
Tessier, Ulric Joseph.....	Portneuf, L.C.
Turcotte, Joseph Edouard.....	St. Maurice, L.C.
Valois, Michel François.....	Montréal, County, L.C.
Varin, Jean Baptiste.....	Huntingdon, L.C.
Viger, Louis Michel.....	Leinster, L.C.
White, John.....	Halton, U.C.
Willson, Crowell.....	Middlesex, U.C.
Wright, Amos.....	York, East, U.C.
Wright, George.....	York, West, U.C.
Young, John.....	Montréal, City, L.C.



TUESDAY, 13 JUNE 1854.<sup>1</sup>

(1)

A MESSAGE from His Excellency the Governor General, by René Kimber, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:--

Mr. Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Legislative Council Chamber.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker, with the House, went to the Council Chamber:-- And being returned;

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, That during the Recess he had issued his Warrants to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, to make out new Writs for the Election of Members to serve in the present Provincial Parliament, in the room of Members whose seats had become vacant; and that the Clerk of this House had received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery the following Certificates of Returns of Members elected upon the said new Writs:--

Province of Canada

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery,  
Quebec, 23rd July, 1853.

This is to certify, that in virtue of a Writ of Election, dated the twenty-seventh day of June last past, issued by His Excellency the Governor General, and addressed to the High Sheriff of the United Counties of Lincoln and Welland, (William Kingsmill, Esquire,) Returning Officer *ex officio* for the Town of Niagara, for the Election of a Member to represent the said Town of Niagara, in the room and place of Joseph Curran Morrison, Esquire, who, since his Election to serve in the present Parliament, had accepted an Office of profit

(2)

under the Crown, to wit, the Office of Solicitor General for Upper Canada, Joseph Curran Morrison, Esquire, has been returned as duly elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, during the present Parliament, as the Representative of the said Town of Niagara, as appears by the Return to the said Writ, dated the thirteenth day of July instant, which is now lodged of record in my office.

Felix Fortier,  
Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

To William Burns Lindsay, Esquire,  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Canada.  
Province of Canada.

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery,  
Quebec, 9th August, 1853.

This is to certify, that in virtue of a Writ of Election, dated the twenty-eighth day of June last past, issued by His Excellency the Governor General, and addressed to the High Sheriff of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville, (Adiel Sherwood, Esquire,) Returning Officer *ex officio* for the County of Leeds, for the Election of a Member to represent the said County of Leeds in the Legislative Assembly, in the present Parliament, in the room and place of the Honorable William Buell Richards, who, since his Election as the Representative of the said County of Leeds, had accepted an Office of profit under the Crown, to wit, the Office of one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Upper Canada, by means whereof the seat of the said Honorable William Buell Richards, as the Representative of the said County of Leeds had become vacant, Jesse Delong, Esquire, has been returned as duly elected accordingly,

as appears by the Return to the said Writ of Election, dated the thirtieth day of July last past, which is now lodged of record in my office.

Felix Fortier,  
Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

To William Burns Lindsay, Esquire,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Canada.

Joseph Curran Morrison, Esquire, Member for the Town of Niagara, and Jesse Delong, Esquire, Member for the County of Leeds, having previously taken the oath, according to Law, and subscribed before the Commissioners the Roll containing the same, took their seats in the House.

Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Hincks have leave to bring in a Bill to provide for the administration of the Oaths of Office to persons appointed to be Justices of the Peace in this Province.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker reported, That when the House did attend His Excellency the Governor General, this day, in the Legislative Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Provincial Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a Copy; which he read to the House, as followeth:--

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

During the Recess, the Province has sustained, I regret to say, serious loss by fire, in the destruction of the Houses of Parliament, and of the Building which was subsequently secured for the temporary occupation of the Legislature. The best arrangements practicable under the circumstances have been made for your accomodation.

(3)

Her Majesty The Queen, Our Most Gracious Sovereign, having failed in Her anxious and protracted endeavours to preserve for Her people the blessings of peace, has felt Herself called upon, by regard for an Ally, the integrity and independence of whose Empire have been recognized as essential to the peace of Europe, by the sympathies of Her people with right against wrong, and by a desire to avert from Her dominions most injurious consequences, to take up arms in conjunction with the Emperor of the French, for the defence of the Sultan. The manifestations of Loyalty to the Sovereign, and sympathy with the Parent State, which have been so general throughout the Province at this conjuncture, will, I am confident, be heartily responded to by the Legislature. The cordial co-operation of England and France in this war is well calculated to call forth the sympathies of the inhabitants of a country peopled mainly by the descendants of those two powerful Empires.

Having during my recent visit to England being honored by The Queen's command to endeavour to effect the settlement of various important questions bearing upon the interests of the British North American Provinces, which had been long pending between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, I proceeded to Washington, where, after frank discussion with the Authorities of the United States, I was enabled to conclude a Treaty which now awaits ratification, upon terms which it is my firm conviction will prove in the highest degree advantageous to the Colonies generally, as well as to the United States. A measure to give effect to that Treaty will be submitted for your approval.

I will communicate to you a Despatch which I have received from the

Secretary of State for the Colonies, with reference to the Addresses to The Queen from the two Houses of the Legislature, on the subject of the Constitution of the Legislative Council, transmitted by me at the close of the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, in order that they might be laid at the foot of the Throne.

I recommend to your consideration the passing of a law for bringing into early operation the Act of last Session which extends the Elective Franchise, in order that a constitutional expression of opinion may be obtained as speedily as possible under the system of representation recently established, on the various important questions on which legislation is required.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

The Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the present year, will be submitted to you without delay; and I rely with confidence on your willingness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Government.

The prosperous condition of the Revenue may suggest to you the propriety of making such reductions in the Tariff as may be compatible with security to the public creditor, and efficiency in the Public Service.

Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

During my sojourn in England, I was much struck by the proofs which I received from all quarters of increasing interest in Canadian affairs, and I trust that my acquaintance with the Province derived from long residence within it, may have enabled me to render some service in spreading more widely a knowledge of its resources and of the feelings of the inhabitants.

Although a state of warfare has a necessary tendency to restrict operations involving large expenditures of capital, I feel confident that the credit of Canada has attained a position in English opinion which it never before achieved, and that, to enable you to retain it, nothing is required but prudence in your undertakings and the maintenance of the high character for fidelity to pecuniary engagements which the Province has at all times borne.

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, That he had received from the Commissioner appointed for the examination of witnesses on the trial of the Petition complaining of an undue Election and Return for the County of Kamouraska, a copy of the Minutes of his proceedings under the said Commission.

(4)

Mr. Speaker further acquainted the House, that he had, this day, issued his Warrant for the re-assembling of the Select Committee on the Kamouraska Election Petition, on Friday the 23rd day of June instant, provided Parliament shall be then sitting, and in case Parliament shall not be then sitting, then on the third Monday next after the commencement of the next Session of Parliament, to take the proceedings of the said Commissioner into consideration.

Mr. Speaker also acquainted the House, That he had received from the Commissioner appointed for the examination of witnesses on the trial of the Petitions complaining of an undue Election and Return for the County of Megantic, a copy of the Minutes of his proceedings under the said Commission.

Mr. Speaker further acquainted the House, That he had, this day, issued his Warrant for the re-assembling of the Select Committee on the Megantic Election Petitions, on Monday the 26th day of June instant, provided Parliament shall be then sitting, and in case Parliament shall not be then sitting, then on the third Monday next after the commencement of the next Session of Parliament, to take the proceedings of the said Commissioner into consideration.



On motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin,  
Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both  
 Houses of the Provincial Legislature be taken into consideration To-morrow.

Ordered, That the Clerk do charge to the Contingencies of this House, the  
 Postage on all Letters and Printed Papers to and from Members of this House  
 during the present Session.

Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being  
 first perused by Mr. Speaker; and that he do appoint the printing thereof;  
 and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin,  
Resolved, That Select Standing Committees of this House, for the present  
 Session, be appointed for the following purposes:--1. On Privileges and  
 Elections. 2. On Expiring Laws. 3. On Railroads, Canals, and Telegraph  
 Lines. 4. On Miscellaneous Private Bills. 5. On Standing Orders. 6. On  
 Printing. 7. On Contingencies. 8. On the Public Accounts; which said Com-  
 mittees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such  
 matters and things as may be referred to them by this House, and to report  
 from time to time their observations and opinions thereon; with power to send  
 for persons, papers and records.

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--  
 By the Honorable Mr. Morin,--The Petition of the Clerk and other Officers  
 and Servants of this House.

By Mr. Prince,--The Petition of S.S. Macdonell and others, of the Village  
 of Windsor, County of Essex.

By Mr. Poulin,--The Petition of the Reverend Edouard J. Crevier, of the  
 Parish of Ste. Marie de Monnoir.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable  
 Mr. Attorney General Drummond,  
 The House adjourned.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO INCORPORATE THE ORANGE SOCIETY OF CANADA.]<sup>2</sup>

MR. MALLOCH gave notice that on the reception of the required petition for that purpose, he would move for leave to introduce a bill to incorporate the Orange Society of Canada, with the view of enabling it to hold legally the necessary property for the proper working of that institution.<sup>3</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: RAILWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY LANDS BILL.]

MR. ROSE [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to compel Railroad Companies and others acquiring Lands for right of way for railways, under the existing Laws, to arbitrate within a reasonable time after taking possession of such lands and for other purposes in connection with the acquirement of property for public improvements.<sup>4</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR A GASPE POLICE FORCE.]<sup>5</sup>

MR. R. CHRISTIE ... [gave] notice that he will move an address to His Excellency the Governor General, "representing that from the great number of United States' Fishing Craft, usually engaged in the Fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and their frequent resort, as well for shelter in rough and stormy weather, to the Harbors on our Coasts, Gaspe in particular, as in many instances unlawfully to fish within the limits reserved by Treaty exclusively to her Majesty's subjects--inhabitants on the Coast, destitute of anything like a Police Force to maintain order and the laws, or even to defend themselves against brute violence (if such were offered by the hordes constituted of the Crews of those Craft when in Port), are frequently overawed by them and at their mercy, or without the least means of resisting them, or preventing the disorderly doings in which they sometimes are disposed, and threaten to indulge to the great annoyance and terror of the peaceable inhabitants. That the inhabitants having cause to complain on this head, consequently evoke for the prevention if [sic] these evils and their consequences, for protection to the Government, and implore His Excellency's immediate action to that effect, by taking measures with as little delay as may be, for realising a vigilant and efficient Land and Water Police for enforcing the Laws and the maintenance of order among the Craft and Crews thereof, domestic or foreign, resorting to the Harbors or Coasts in the Gaspe District, and for the protection of the inhabitants of the said Coasts and Harbors; representing moreover to His Excellency, that until such time as an efficient Police Force can by Law be established, and adequately organized on the aforesaid coast, that the constant presence, during the summer months, of one of Her Majesty's Ships of War thereat, particularly in the Bay of Gaspe, for the preservation of order and protection of Her Majesty's subjects residing on the Coast, and in the said Bay, is indispensably necessary, and finally, humbly praying His Excellency will be graciously pleased to take, with all convenient despatch, the necessary steps for securing to them temporarily, the desired protection, by procuring, if possible, the presence of a Ship of War in the said Bay, for the aforesaid purposes, during the present and following summers, or until such time as provision therefor is made by the Legislature, and an adequate Police consequently established, under the authority of the Provincial Government."<sup>6</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR STATEMENT OF DEBENTURES ISSUED UNDER CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL LOAN FUND ACT.]<sup>7</sup>

MR. TESSIER [gave notice that] on the 16th inst. [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency for a statement of the debentures issued under the Act 16 Vict., ch. 22, intituled, "An Act to establish a Consolidated Municipal Loan Fund for Upper Canada," and under the Act 16 Vict., ch. 123, explaining and amending the foregoing Act, shewing:--

- 1st. The total amount of the said Debentures;
- 2nd. The particular amount of such Debentures for each and what county;
- 3rd. The date and title of the By-laws of the Municipalities under which the said Debentures have been issued;
- 4th. The amount of such Debentures as are to be issued under any By-laws already communicated to the Executive Government, and the title of such By-laws.<sup>8</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: COMMITTEE TO SELECT MEMBERS FOR STANDING COMMITTEES.]<sup>9</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS gave notice that he would move on Friday next for the appointment of a select committee to prepare a list of members to compose the select standing committees, the committees [sic] to be composed of the Hon. Mr. Hincks, Sir A.N. McNab, Hon. Mr. MacDonald of Kingston, Hon. Mr. Badgley, Mr. Lemieux, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Turcotte, Mr. Galt, Mr. Christie of Wentworth, and Mr. Patrick.<sup>10</sup>



1. The TORONTO LEADER, 19 June 1854, gave the following description of the Assembly room and the scene at the opening of Parliament:

"Notwithstanding the destruction of two Parliamentary buildings since last session, Parliament is not at all badly off for quarters. The Music Hall, which has been fitted up for the Legislative Assembly is an excellent building, and will very well serve the purpose to which it has been temporarily applied. It offers large accommodation to the public to witness the proceedings of the House, being galleried on both sides and across one end. The roof is about half covered with stained glass, so arranged as to admit light and produce a very fine effect. Considering that this building has been sought as a refuge in an emergency, Parliament may well consider itself fortunate that it is so well accommodated. In the fitting up of the House of Assembly, the luxury of arm-chairs, with which members were indulged at Toronto, has been dispensed with: benches of the description used in the House of Commons having been substituted. Each bench covers two desks and accommodates four members, leaving an unoccupied seat in the centre to accommodate a visitor from any other part of the House. There is not yet any place fitted up for the use of the reporters. The room has been intended for theatrical purposes, and there is a stage back of the speaker's chair. On the stage I believe it is intended to afford accommodation for the reporters.

Parliament was opened in the Assembly room; having for that purpose being [sic] lent to the Legislative Council and considered their chamber for the nonce. There was a considerable display of beauty and fashion at the opening ceremony, the spacious galleries being entirely filled with spectators; a good sprinkling of ladies being present. The Governor General was greeted with the military salutes usual on such occasions."

The correspondent of the GLOBE (22 June 1854) described the room as follows:

"The hall in which the House of Assembly now meets is a very fine room--large and well ventilated, and conveniently fitted up; but it is very difficult to speak in, still worse as regards hearing. The hum of voices and moving of feet, is constantly such that few speakers can be distinctly heard, even by the members. The offices attached are miserable in the extreme."

2. This notice was reported in identical accounts by the following papers: QUEBEC GAZETTE, 17 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 15 June 1854) of the notice, which dated it 14 June 1854.
3. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 15 June 1854).
4. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 17 June 1854. The notice was reported in identical accounts by HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854.
5. This notice was reported in identical accounts by the following papers: MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 June 1854, and HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 20 June 1854 (which copied MONTREAL GAZETTE). It was noted in identical accounts by the following papers: QUEBEC GAZETTE, 17 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 15 June 1854) of the notice, which dated it 14 June 1854.
6. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 June 1854.

7. This notice was reported in identical accounts by the following papers: QUEBEC GAZETTE, 17 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 15 June 1854) of the notice, which dated it 14 June 1854.
8. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 17 June 1854.
9. The following papers reported this notice in identical accounts: QUEBEC GAZETTE, 17 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 15 June 1854) of the notice, which dated it 14 June 1854.
10. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 15 June 1854).

WEDNESDAY, 14 JUNE 1854.<sup>1</sup>

(5)

MR. SPEAKER communicated to the House the following Letter:--

Clerk's Office, Legislative Assembly,

Quebec, 14th June, 1854.

Sir,--I have the honor respectfully to submit the accompanying Letter which has been addressed to me by George B. Faribault, Esquire, the Clerk Assistant of the Assembly, informing me that the state of his health will prevent him from attending to the duties of his office, at the commencement of the present Session.

I therefore respectfully pray, that in order to facilitate the business of the House, I might be permitted, with your approbation, to appoint a Deputy Clerk Assistant to act during Mr. Faribault's temporary absence.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and very humble Servant,

Wm. B. Lindsay,

Clerk Assembly.

To the Honorable The Speaker

of the Legislative Assembly.

Quebec, 13th June, 1854.

Sir,--I regret exceedingly that I am under the necessity of informing you, that the bad state of my health will not permit me to perform the duties of my Office at the commencement of the present Session.

I would, therefore, beg of you to present my respectful apologies to the Honorable The Speaker and the Members of the Legislative Assembly, relying on their indulgence for the present, and entertaining a hope that an improved state of health will speedily allow me to resume my duties at the table of their Honorable House.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

G.B. Faribault,

Clerk Assistant.

W.B. Lindsay, Esquire,

Clerk, Legislative Assembly.

Quebec, 13th June, 1854.

Mr. Faribault is confined to his room with a severe attack of Rheumatism "Sciatica," and really unable to attend to business, or leave his house for some time to come.

Jos. Morrin, M.D.

Mr. Speaker then acquainted the House, That the Clerk had, with his approbation, appointed William B. Lindsay, Junior, Esquire, to act as Deputy Clerk Assistant, during Mr. Faribault's temporary absence.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House, a Report of the Librarian of the Legislative Assembly, on the state of the Joint Library of Parliament; which Report is as followeth:--

To the Honorable The Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Your Librarian begs leave respectfully to Report:--

That during the past Recess of the Legislature, about three o'clock on the morning of the first day of February, 1854, a fire broke out in the south wing of the Parliament Buildings, occupied by the Honorable the Legislative Council, which raged with destructive fury for more than four hours, and entirely des-



troyed the interior of the whole structure, leaving only the external walls standing.

(6)

His Excellency the Administrator of the Province and his Staff, the Commandant of the Garrison, Lieutenant Colonel Grubbe, with the Military under his command, and the citizens generally, were, on the first alarm, on the spot, and used every exertion to extinguish the fire; but failing in this, labored effectually in saving a great part of the valuable furniture, and also a large portion of the Books of the Library,--the latter, fortunately, with little comparative injury.

Your Librarian would also specially remark, that the Reverend Gentlemen of the Seminary, and the junior pupils of the same, rendered most valuable and efficient assistance in rescuing the books and furniture from the flames; and it is mainly owing to their active and zealous exertions, that the greater part of the former were saved, and placed, by permission, in the Palace of His Grace the Archbishop of Quebec, his Grace's private Chapel, and other buildings connected with his residence.

The difficulty of procuring a suitable place to arrange, enumerate, and classify the collection of books thus saved, was, at first very serious; but, when made known, it was generously and kindly removed by the offer of the Reverend the Principal of the Seminary, of threespacious rooms in that building for its reception; and from the period of the occurrence of the fire to the present time, the whole has been permitted to occupy this commodious situation, every attention paid to its preservation, as well as to the comfort and convenience of the Officers and Servants of Your Honorable House in charge of the same. To this circumstance we are, under Providence, indebted for the preservation of all that remains of the Library from destruction at the Hospice of the Sisters of Charity, for had the books, as intended, been removed there, they would in all probability have been consumed in the fire which recently destroyed that fine structure.

With reference to the portion of the Library saved, Your Librarian would, with much satisfaction, observe, that the whole of the works relating to the actual proceedings of the Legislature, consisting of Parliamentary Law, Imperial and Provincial Statutes and Journals, with the History, Customs and Usages of Parliament, were rescued intact; and fortunately, therefore, the Legislature on its assembling will experience no difficulty as respects the books of reference necessary for the ensuing Session.

Adverting to the salvage of this important part of the Library, and the destruction which fell upon so large a portion of the remainder, there is little doubt that if a person cognizant of the different classes and positions of the books had been resident in the building to direct the zealous labour of the numerous assistants, the greater part, if not the whole, of the collection might have been saved; and Your Librarian would most respectfully suggest, that in any future arrangement which may be made for the re-establishment of the Library, a responsible officer connected with this department should reside in the building appropriated for its reception.

In the fall of the past year two cases of Law and Miscellaneous works, intended for the Library, were wrecked in the Brig Anne, nine miles below Quebec. The whole were submerged, and much damaged, but ultimately recovered and sold for the benefit of the Underwriters. Having been insured for their full value, the Legislature has sustained no loss by this accident.

The Books ordered on the recommendation of Mr. Speaker and the Library Committee of the last Session, have been mostly received,--those lost by the

Anne replaced--and the others daily expected. The Works purchased in Paris have also arrived, and the whole are in a state of good preservation.

A few days previous to the fire that consumed the late Building of the Legislature, an enumeration of the books in the Library was carefully made, and the number found to be 17,000 volumes; of these the number saved was 9,319. In this amount is included the broken sets or odd volumes, comprising 594 volumes, leaving actually useful and serviceable 8,725 volumes.

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The odd volumes alluded to have been abandoned to the Insurers, as absolutely lost, and of no value whatever to the Library for literary purposes.

The Insurance fortunately effected on the Library by the two Clerks of the Legislature, amounted to £10,000, while its actual value was computed to have been £11,723 19s. 2d., at the time of the fire. Assuming the value of the books saved to be £6,023 19s. 2d., the remaining balance is £5,700, which sum has been allowed by the offices of Insurance, is ready to be paid by them, and will be available for re-appropriation, as the Honorable the Legislature may deem advisable.

A complete and classified catalogue of the entire collection had been compiled and was ready for the press when the disaster of the 1st of February occurred. This catalogue was fortunately saved, (together with the records of the Library,) excepting the portion relating to the Works on America, of which a considerable number of pages was unfortunately lost.

In the present mutilated condition of the Library, and pending arrangements which it may be presumed will speedily be made for its re-construction, it was not thought advisable to incur the expense of printing a new catalogue. Due preparation, however, has been made, by noting the titles of all books received since last Session, for the speedy completion of a proper catalogue whenever circumstances may call for its publication.

The number of books actually in the Library may be estimated at about 9,120 volumes. Of these a few have been received under the Copyright Act, and others by way of donation from various sources,--correct lists of which are annexed to this Report.

The entire collection of books in charge of your Librarian is in as good preservation and condition as can be expected under the circumstances of the late disastrous and destructive fire, and is at present in a state of security from further loss or damage.

All which is humbly and respectfully submitted.

William Winder,  
Librarian.

Library of Parliament, Seminary Buildings.  
Quebec, 13th of June, 1854.

List of Donations presented to the Library of Parliament since the last Report made by the Librarians, at the commencement of the Session of 1852-3:--

By John Lovell, Esquire, of Montreal:--

Talbot's (Major) Psalms and Chants, set to Music, for Morning and Evening Service. 4to. Montreal, 1848. Six copies of this work were presented by Mr. Lovell, (the publisher,) in furtherance of the celebration of Divine Worship before the Houses of Parliament.

By the Rev. Dr. Adamson, Chaplain and Librarian to the Legislative Council:--

Bailey's Liturgy compared with the Bible. 1848.

Taylor (Jeremy) Life of Christ, 3 vols. 1836.

Pamphlets, Civil and Ecclesiastical, 2 vols.

Newman on Development; bound up with:--

Trial of Bishop Onderdonk. 1844.

Ramsbotham's Obstetrics.

Wilson's Anatomist's Vade-mecum.

Dwight's Theology, 5 vols. 1827.

Jones on the Doctrine of the Trinity.

New Testament, in the Irish tongue. 1830.

Holy Bible, with notes by D'Oyley and Mant, 3 vols. 4to. 1818.

MacKnight's Commentary on the Apostolical Epistles, 6 vols. 1821.

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Leslie's Short and Easy method with Deists.

Minutes of Committee of Council on Education, with Appendices, &c. 14 vols.

Several printed Sermons, by himself.

By John Lovell, Esquire, of Montreal, (2nd Donation):--

Alley's Tables of Exchange and Currency. 1844.

Wilton's Scenes in a Soldier's Life. 1848.

Bibaud, Histoire du Canada, 2 vols.

A number of Canadian pamphlets.

From W.P.S. Shortt, Esquire, the following Works, written by himself:--

Antiquities of Devon.

Gesta Anglo-Americana; lithographed by the Author, in Greek and English.

Siege of Quebec, in 1775, with notes.

By G.B. Faribault, Esquire, Clerk Assistant to the Legislative Assembly:--

Neal's History of the Puritans, 3 vols. 1837.

By the Honorable W. Badgley, M.P.P.:--

Pownall on the Colonies, 5th Edition, 2 vols. 1774.

By Henry Rowsell, Esquire, Publisher, Toronto:--

A number of Pamphlets, chiefly published by himself.

By Thomas Cary, Esquire, Publisher, Quebec:--

A number of Canadian Pamphlets.

By M.E. Langevin, Prêtre, Secrétaire de l'Archevêché de Québec:--

Catéchismes, Cantiques, &c., les langues Montagnaise, Sautaux et Abénaquis.

By the Smithsonian Institution at Washington:--

Vol. 5 of the Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge.

By Mrs. Hooper, of Orillia, Canada West:--

Burnet's Sacred Theory of the Earth.

By the Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool:--

Proceedings of the Society, as far as published, 3 vols.

By the Library of the Corporation of the City of London:--

Descriptive Catalogue of London Tradesmen's Tokens.

By the Secretary of State for the Colonies, through the kindness of George

Mayer, Esquire, of the Colonial Office:--

Journals and Appendices of the Legislative Assembly of Canada, 55 vols.

From the State of Illinois:--

13 volumes. State Law Reports.

19 volumes. Statutes of Illinois.

20 volumes. Journals of the Senate and House of Representatives of Illinois.

10 volumes. Session Reports.

By the Honorable Mr. Justice Caron:--

American Statesman's Manual, 4 vols.

McCulloch's Commercial Dictionary; American Edition, 2 vols.

From the Royal Society of Arts:--

Transactions of the Society, 54 vols. in 26.



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From the Royal Commissioners for the Great Exhibition of 1851:--  
 Prospectuses of Exhibitors, 16 volumes.  
 Jury Reports, 1 volume.

Large paper Copy (uniformly and handsomely bound) of the Exhibition Catalogue, (3 vols.) The Jury Reports, (4 vols.) Reports to the Crown, and Supplement to the Catalogue, (1 vol.) and a Case of the Medals. These were presented to "the Province of Canada;" and were deposited in the Library of Parliament, by Order of His Excellency the Governor General.

From the Regents of the University of the State of New York:--  
 Vols. 3 and 4 of the Documentary History of the State, 4to edition.

Report on the State Cabinet of Natural History, for 1854.

Vol. 3 of Documents relating to the Colonial History of New York.

Annual Report on the State Library at Albany, for 1854.

By James Lenox, Esquire, of New York:--

Voyages of DeVries.

Washington's Farewell Address.

By the Very Reverend Sister Deschamps, Superior of the Grey Nuns, Montreal:--  
 Vie de Madame d'Youville, Fondatrice, &c.

From the Imperial Government of Great Britain:--

State Papers, tempo Henry VIII. 11 vols. 4to.

British and Foreign State Papers, 23 vols. 8vo.

From Departments of State of the Imperial Government of France:--

Works on Military subjects; from the Minister of Marine, 5 vols.

Works on Sculpture, Painting and Music; from the Minister of Public Instruction, &c., 8 vols.

(N.B.--The Works mentioned in the two preceding entries were obtained through the agency of Messrs. Faribault and Wicksteed, in 1852, but were not ready to be forwarded to Canada at the time of despatching the principal portion of the Donations received from the French and English Authorities.)

From His Excellency the Governor General:--

Vol. 3 of Magnetical Observations, at Hobarton.

From the States of New York and Vermont:--

The usual collection of Sessional Journals, Documents and Laws.

By C. Purton Cooper, Esquire, LL.D., &c. of London:--

Melmoth on the importance of a Religious Life.

Sundry Pamphlets, chiefly written by Dr. Cooper, on Legal and Ecclesiastical questions.

Catalogues of the valuable Library of Dr. Cooper.

By T. Sanson, Esquire, Honorary Secretary:--

No. 7, (in continuation,) of the Proceedings of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool.

By a resident of Quebec, through the Rev. Dr. Adamson:--

5 vols. of Army Lists of Great Britain.

A number of Pamphlets.

(10)

By J.S. Meehan, Esquire, Librarian of Congress of United States:--  
Andrew's Report on Trade and Commerce of British North America, for 1851 and 1852.

List of Works deposited in the Library, pursuant to the Copyright Act, since the last Report, by the respective Publishers, or on their behalf:--

By J. & O. Crémazie, of Quebec:--  
*Manuel des Notions utiles sur les Droits Politiques, &c.*

By Henry Rowsell, of Toronto:--  
Melville's History of Trinity College.

By E.J. Hemming:--  
*Prize Essay on the neglect of Chemistry by Practical Farmers.*

By J.B. Rolland, of Montreal:--  
*Guide de l'Instituteur, par V.X. Valade, 3rd edition.*  
*Traité Élémentaire d'Algèbre.*

By Hew Ramsay, of Montreal:--  
*The Governor of the Island of Cacona.*

By Thomas Maclear, of Toronto:--  
Woodhouse's Interest Tables.

By E. Langevin, Prêtre, Secrétaire de l'Archevêché de Québec:--  
*Petit Catéchisme de Québec.*

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Jobin,--The Petition of William Morrison and others, of the Parish of Berthier, District of Montreal; the Petition of the Corporation of the Berthier Academy; the Petition of Leopold Desrosiers, President, and others, Members of the Library Association of the Berthier Mechanics' Institute; the Petition of Louis Archambault and others, of the Township of Kildare; the Petition of the Reverend M.J.E. Chévigny, Director of the Academy of St. Henry de Mascouche, and others; the Petition of the Corporation of the College of L'Assomption; and the Petition of Henri Lappare, Esquire, Notary, and Secretary of the Board of Notaries of Montreal.

By Sir Allan N. MacNab,--The Petition of William Winder, Esquire, Librarian of the Legislative Assembly.

By Mr. Lemieux,--The Petition of E. Boudreau and others, Pilots for and above the Harbour of Quebec; the Petition of J.O.C. Arcand and others, of the Parishes of St. Joseph and St. Frederic de La Beauce; the Petition of J.T. Taschereau, Esquire, and others, of the City of Quebec and vicinity; the Petition of the Reverend J.D. Deziel and others, of the Parish of Notre Dame de la Victoire, County of Dorchester; and the Petition of H. Routier, Esquire, and others, School Commissioners and Magistrates of the Parish of St. Joseph of Point Levi.

By Mr. Fortier,--The Petition of the Reverend J. Harper and others, of the Parish of St. Grégoire, County of Nicolet; and the Petition of Pierre Métivier and others, of the Township of Aston.

By Mr. Tessier,--The Petition of D. Watters, Esquire, and others, of the Parish of St. Augustin, County of Portneuf; the Petition of Ambroise Côté, Esquire, and others, of the Parish of St. Augustin, County of Portneuf; and the Petition of Fabien Drolet and others, of the Parishes of St. Augustin and L'Ancienne Lorette.

By the Honorable Mr. Macdonald,--The Petition of the Commercial Bank of the Midland District.

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By Mr. Mongenais,--The Petition of Donald McMillan and others, of Rigaud.

By Mr. Cartier,--The Petition of V. Gadbois and others, of Beloeil; the Petition of the Vaudreuil Railway Company; the Petition of the Montreal Mining Company; the Petition of the Institut National of the City of Montreal; the Petition of the Reverend T.H. Prévost and others, Commissioners of Catholic Schools of the City of Montreal; and the Petition of the Grand Trunk Railway

*Company of Canada.*

*By Mr. Wright of the West Riding of York,--The Petition of J. Sanderson, Esquire, and others, of the County of Peel, a junior County of the United Counties of York, Ontario and Peel.*

*By Mr. Stuart,--The Petition of Mary Ann Bankier, Treasurer of the Quebec Lower Town Infant School.*

MR. RIDOUT a demandé un[e] explication relativement aux réclamations de M. Lee, qui avait loué la Salle Musicale pour la saison, et qui se trouve privé des droits que lui donnait son bail, attendu que le gouvernement a pris possession de cet édifice pour y tenir les séances de l'assemblée législative.<sup>2</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS a répondu que le gouvernement n'avait rien à voir dans cette difficulté; que la Salle Musicale avait été louée directement des propriétaires, et que les tribunaux auraient probablement à prononcer entre ceux-ci et le premier locataire. Il avait compris, au reste, que les propriétaires ne s'étaient décidés à louer leur salle au gouvernement qu'après avoir mis M. Lee en demeure de fournir des cautions pour le montant du loyer, ce qu'il n'avait pu ou n'avait pas voulu faire.<sup>3</sup>

(11)

*The Order of the day being read, for taking into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature;*<sup>4</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS proposa la prise en considération de la réponse au Discours du Trône<sup>5</sup>.

MR. CAUCHON was the first to demur. He said he was not present on the previous day when that side of the House agreed to go on with it in such indecent haste.<sup>6</sup> [Il] fit remarquer qu'il serait injuste de presser une discussion de cette importance avant que les membres de la Chambre n'eussent eu le temps d'examiner avec attention le discours lui-même et la réponse qu'on se proposait d'y faire. La traduction française de[s] résolutions préparées à cet effet venait à peine d'être distribuée, et il espérait que l'administration n'insisterait pas.<sup>7</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS.--J'ai compris que la considération du Discours du Trône entraînerait peu de discussion, et qu'aucun des honorables membres n'avait l'intention de proposer des amendements à la réponse qui est maintenant entre leurs mains. L'honorable membre pour le comté de Montmorency a-t-il des amendements à proposer?<sup>8</sup>

MR. CAUCHON.--Oui, et je suis prêt à les introduire de suite, si la réponse à l'adresse est soumise à la Chambre durant cette séance. Cependant, je désire, et je crois que la majorité de cette Chambre désire que la discussion de l'adresse soit ajournée.<sup>9</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS after conferring with Mr. Morin said, that if it was the intention of any member to propose amendments or to bring up the "misdeeds" of the Government, the ministry would consent to a postponement....[He] adverted to the custom in the House of Commons of proceeding at once with the consideration of the speech.<sup>10</sup>

He was, however, reminded that such had not heretofore been the habit in Canada, and ... [that] some two or three days were usually allowed<sup>11</sup>.

MR. SICOTTE.--Je partage l'opinion de l'honorable membre pour Montmorency; la considération de l'adresse devrait être renvoyée à un autre jour. Il est



probable que j'aurai, moi aussi, des amendements à proposer à la réponse préparée par l'administration, mais je déclare n'être pas prêt à entrer maintenant dans la discussion, et la plupart des membres de cette Chambre pourraient en dire autant. D'ailleurs, tous les représentants n'ont pas encore pris leurs sièges, et cette démarche précipitée les priverait de l'avantage de prendre part aux débats.<sup>12</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD took the same view with Cauchon<sup>13</sup>.

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS yielded, after stipulating that any amendments which it was intended to propose should be printed, and put into the hands of as many as possible, and that it should be understood that members arriving on Friday morning, should not obtain any indulgence.<sup>14</sup>

(11)

*Ordered, That the said Order of the day be postponed until Friday next.*

*Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin,*

*The House adjourned until Friday next.*<sup>15</sup>

APPENDIX: 14 JUNE 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO PREVENT CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.]<sup>16</sup>

COL. PRINCE [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to prevent cruelty to Dumb Animals.<sup>17</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO PREVENT DISENFRANCHISEMENT OF CERTAIN VOTERS.]<sup>18</sup>

MR. ROSE [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to amend the Act 16 Vic. ch. 153, so as to prevent parties who heretofore possessed the right to vote from being disfranchised under the operation of the above recited Act.<sup>19</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: POST OFFICE BILL.]<sup>20</sup>

MR. POST. GEN. CAMERON [gave notice that] on Tuesday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill on the subject of the Post Office.<sup>21</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO MAKE QUEBEC MAYORALTY ELECTIVE.]<sup>22</sup>

MR. STUART [gave notice that] on Friday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to render the office of Mayor of the City of Quebec elective by the people.<sup>23</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR QUEBEC POST OFFICE SITE DOCUMENTS.]<sup>24</sup>

MR. STUART [gave notice that] on Friday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General praying that he will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House, copies of any documents in the possession of the Executive Government connected with the purchas[e] of a site for a Post Office in the City of Quebec.<sup>25</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR QUEBEC CUSTOM HOUSE DOCUMENTS.]<sup>26</sup>

MR. STUART [gave notice that] on Friday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before this House any correspondence, proceedings, or other documents or plans connected with the erection of a Custom House in the City of Quebec, shewing what extent of ground, if any, has been purchased for the purpose, when the same was acquired, and what steps, if any, have been taken for the erection of such Custom House.<sup>27</sup>

FOOTNOTES: 14 JUNE 1854.

1. The following list of members absent on 14 June 1854, from the MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 June 1854, was also printed by GLOBE, 15 June 1854 and PILOT, 19 June 1854:  
"Messrs. Badgley, Brown, Christie (Wen[t]worth,) Dixon, Fergusson, Gamble, Johnson, Lacoste, Langton, LeBlanc, LeBouthillier [sic], McDonald (Cornwall,) Merritt, Smith (Durham,) Smith (Frontenac,) Stevenson, Street, Viger, White, Wil[1]son, and Young."
2. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
3. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854, which indicated that "cette petite discussion" took place just before the Orders of the day were called.
4. The following papers reported the debate on this matter: GLOBE, 22 June 1854; and LE PAYS, 20 June 1854. The following papers noted the debate in identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 June 1854, PILOT, 19 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854. The debate was also noted by GLOBE, 15 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 15 June 1854) of the debate.
5. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854. GLOBE, 15 June 1854, reported that the answer to the speech was moved and seconded before Mr. Hincks rose. This was an error.
6. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
7. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
8. IBID.
9. IBID.
10. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
11. IBID.
12. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
13. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
14. IBID.
15. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854, noted that the House adjourned until Friday "en conséquence de la Fête-Dieu."
16. The following papers reported this notice in identical accounts: PILOT, 20 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854, and LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
17. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854.
18. The following papers reported this notice in partially identical accounts: PILOT, 20 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854, and LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
19. PILOT, 20 June 1854. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854, had "16 Vic. ch. 143."
20. The following papers reported this notice in partially identical accounts: PILOT, 20 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854, and LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
21. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854, reported that the notice was for "vendredi prochain."
22. The following papers reported this notice in partially identical accounts: PILOT, 20 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854, and LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
23. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854.
24. The following papers reported this notice in identical accounts: PILOT, 20 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854.



25. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854.
26. The following papers reported this notice in identical accounts: PILOT, 20 June 1854, HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854, and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854.
27. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854.



FRIDAY, 16 JUNE 1854.<sup>1</sup>

(11)

MR. SPEAKER acquainted the House, That His Excellency the Governor General had been pleased to appoint Donald William McDonell, Esquire, Serjeant-at-Arms, to this House, in the Place of George K. Chisholm, Esquire, resigned.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House, the Accounts of the Trinity Houses of Quebec and Montreal, for the year ending 31st December, 1853.

For the said Accounts, see Appendix (A.)

And also, Accounts of the Trustees of the Montreal Turnpike Roads, to 31st December, 1853.

For the said Accounts, see Appendix (B.)

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, That his Warrant for the appointment of Members to serve on the General Committee of Elections, was upon the Table;--And the said Warrant was read, as followeth:--

Pursuant to "The Elections Petitions Act of 1851," Section 30, I do hereby appoint Antoine Polette, Esquire, Member for the Town of Three Rivers; the Honorable John Alexander Macdonald, Member for the City of Kingston; David Christie, Esquire, Member for the County of Wentworth; George Percival Ridout, Esquire, Member for the City of Toronto; John Sewall Sanborn, Esquire, Member, for the County of Sherbrooke; and Joseph Edouard Turcotte, Esquire, Member for the County of St. Maurice, to be Members of the General Committee of Elections for the present Session.

Given under my hand, this sixteenth day of June, 1854.

J. Sandfield Macdonald,  
Speaker.

Ordered, That the said Warrant be printed.

(12)

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Christie of Gaspé,--The Petition of the Municipal Council of the Magdalen Islands.

By Mr. Varin,--The Petition of Antoine Normandin and others, of the District of Montreal.

By Mr. Jobin,--The Petition of the Reverend J.L. Guyon and others, of the Parish of Ste. Elizabeth, County of Berthier.

By Mr. Turcotte,--The Petition of the Reverend T. Paradis and others, of the Town of Three Rivers, the Parish of St. Grégoire, and the Township of Kingsey.

By the Honorable Mr. Badgley,--The Petition of John Boston, Esquire, and others, of the City of Montreal; the Petition of William Workman, Esquire, and others, of the City of Montreal; the Petition of Thomas M. Taylor and others, Trustees of Zion Church, Montreal; the Petition of the Reverend George Werner and others, of the City of Montreal, the German Evangelical Congregation; the Petition of the Kingsey Slate Works Company; the Petition of the Church Society of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Diocese of Montreal; the Petition of the Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly Railroad Company; the Petition of the Montreal and Bytown Railway Company; the Petition of the President and Directors of the City Bank of Montreal; and the Petition of the Bank of Montreal.

By Mr. Poulin,--The Petition of the Reverend Edouard Joseph Crevier, of the Parish of Ste. Marie de Monnoir.



By the Honorable Mr. Young,--The Petition of the Montreal and Vermont Junction Railway Company; the Petition of Jacques Viger, Esquire, President, and the Reverend A.T. Truteau, Secretary, on behalf of the Association of the School of St. Jacques, Montreal; and the Petition of the Montreal Board of Trade.

By Mr. Smith of Durham,--The Petition of the Commissioners of the Port Hope Harbour; and the Petition of the Peterborough and Port Hope Railway Company.

By the Honorable Mr. Morin,--The Petition of the Reverend A. Théberge and others, the Curé, Church Wardens and Inhabitants of the Parish of Terrebonne; the Petition of the Corporation of the Montreal General Hospital; and the Petition of the President and Directors of the Montreal Horticultural Society.

By Mr. Cartier,--The Petition of the Montreal Ladies Benevolent Society.

By Mr. Valois,--The Petition of Gabriel Valois, President, on behalf of the School Commissioners of Pointe Claire; and the Petition of the Reverend Jean Baptiste St. Germain, of the Parish of St. Laurent, County of Montreal.

By Mr. Lemieux,--The Petition of E. Duchesnay, Esquire, and others, School Commissioners, and others, of the Parish of Ste. Marie de la Beauce, County of Dorchester.

By Mr. Fournier,--The Petition of Nazaire Caron, President, and others, on behalf of the Association of School Teachers of the County of L'Islet.

By the Honorable Mr. Robinson,--Two Petitions of the Municipal Council of the County of Simcoe; and the Petition of John Settle and others, of the Townships of Mulmer and Tosorontio.

By Mr. Marchildon,--The Petition of André Trudel and others, of the Parish of Ste. Geneviève de Batiscan, County of Champlain; and the Petition of Pierre Jean Mathon; School Teacher.

By Mr. Stuart,--The Petition of Jean Langevin, of the City of Quebec, Esquire.

By Mr. Tessier,--The Petition of Joseph Morrin, Esquire, President, and others, Shareholders in the Quebec Building Society.

By Mr. Chapais,--The Petition of the Corporation of the College of Ste. Anne de la Pocatière.

(13)

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:--

Of the Clerk and other Officers and Servants of this House; representing that the great changes which have taken place of late in the value of money, and the increased prices of the necessaries of life, have reduced the actual value of their salaries, rendering them inadequate to the necessities of the times, and praying that certain Resolutions adopted in Committee of the whole House last Session may be declared in full force--and for such further relief as the House may deem fit.

Of S.S. Macdonell and others, of the Village of Windsor, County of Essex; praying for an Act of Incorporation under the name of "The Windsor Hotel Company."

Of the Reverend Edouard J. Crevier, of the Parish of Ste. Marie de Monnoir; praying for an Act of Incorporation for the "College de Ste. Marie de Monnoir."

Of the Corporation of the Berthier Academy; praying for aid.

Of Leopold Desrosiers, President, and others, Members of the Library Association of the Berthier Mechanics' Institute; praying for aid in behalf of the said Library.

Of Louis Archambault and others, of the Township of Kildare; praying for

aid to open a Road and to construct Bridges on the line leading to the main Road to Rawdon, Berthier and Industry Village.

Of the Reverend M.J.E. Chévigny, Director of the Academy of St. Henry de Mascouche, and others; praying for aid in behalf of said Academy.

Of the Corporation of the College of L'Assomption; praying for aid.

Of Henri Lappare, Esquire, Notary, and Secretary of the Board of Notaries of Montreal; praying for an increase of salary.

Of William Winder, Esquire, Librarian of the Legislative Assembly; praying compensation for his loss sustained by the burning of the Parliament buildings in Quebec, on the 1st of February last.

Of E. Boudreau and others, Pilots for and above the Harbour of Quebec; praying for certain amendments to the Act incorporating the Trinity House of Montreal.

Of J.O.C. Arcand and others, of the Parishes of St. Joseph and St. Frederic de la Beauce; praying for aid to open a main Road from the Township of Broughton in the County of Megantic.

Of J.T. Taschereau, Esquire, and others, of the City of Quebec and vicinity; praying for an Act of Incorporation for the construction of a Railroad from Point Levi, opposite Quebec, to the frontier line of the State of Maine.

Of the Reverend J.D. Desiel and others, of the Parish of Notre Dame de la Victoire, County of Dorchester; praying for aid in behalf of an Educational Establishment under the direction of the "Frères des Ecoles Chrétiennes" in the said County.

Of H. Routier, Esquire, and others, School Commissioners and Magistrates of the Parish of St. Joseph of Point Levi; praying aid for the construction of a Seminary for the education of girls in the said Parish.

Of the Reverend J. Harper and others, of the Parish of St. Grégoire, County of Nicolet; praying for aid in behalf of the Academy of St. Grégoire.

Of Pierre Métivier and others, of the Township of Aston; praying that the said Township may be detached from the Municipality No. 2 of Drummond, and annexed to the Municipality of Nicolet.

Of D. Watters, Esquire, and others, of the Parish of St. Augustin, County of Portneuf; praying for aid to macadamize the Cap Rouge Road, from the Cap Rouge Bridge to the hill at the old church in the said Parish.

Of Ambroise Côté, Esquire, and others, of the Parish of St. Augustin, County of Portneuf; praying for aid to improve the Road at the hill at the old church in the said Parish.

Of Fabien Drolet and others, of the Parishes of St. Augustin and L'Ancienne

(14)

Lorette; praying for aid to improve the macadamized Road from Lorette by the third range of the said Parish of St. Augustin.

Of the Commercial Bank of the Midland District; praying for the passing of an Act to increase the Capital Stock of the said Bank.

Of Donald McMillan and others, of Rigaud,--and of V. Gadbois and others, of Beloeil; praying for the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure in Lower Canada.

Of the Vaudreuil Railway Company; praying for certain amendments to the Act incorporating the said Company.

Of the Montreal Mining Company; praying that their Act of Incorporation may be so amended as to enable them to own vessels for conveying their ore on water from place to place.

Of the Institut National of the City of Montreal; praying for aid.

Of Mary Ann Bankier, Treasurer of the Quebec Lower Town Infant School; praying for aid in behalf of the said School.

*Of the Reverend T.H. Prévost and others, Commissioners of Catholic Schools of the City of Montreal; praying aid to construct a building for the establishment of a Model and Academic School in the said City.*

*Of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada; praying for certain amendments to the several Acts relating to the Incorporation of the said Company.*

*Of J. Sanderson, Esquire, and others, of the County of Peel, a junior County of the United Counties of York, Ontario, and Peel; praying to be set apart as a separate County for Judicial and other purposes.<sup>2</sup>*

On motion of MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS,<sup>3</sup>

(14)

*Resolved, That a Select Committee of eleven Members be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this House; and that the said Committee be composed of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, Sir Allan N. MacNab, the Honorable Mr. Macdonald, the Honorable Mr. Badgley, Mr. Lemieux, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Turcotte, Mr. Galt, Mr. Smith of Durham, and Mr. Patrick.*

*On motion of Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Polette,*

*Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that he will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House, copies of any documents in the possession of the Executive Government connected with the purchase of a site for a Post Office in the City of Quebec.*

*Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.*

MR. STUART ... [made] a similar motion relative to the Quebec Custom House<sup>4</sup>.

MR. COM. PUB. WORKS CHABOT ... [promised] to give information in a few days.<sup>5</sup>

[The motion] was postponed.<sup>6</sup>

(14)

*Ordered, That Mr. Stuart have leave to bring in a Bill to render the Office of Mayor of the City of Quebec elective by the People.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.*

*The Order of the day being read, for taking into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature;*

On motion of MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS,<sup>7</sup>

(14)

*The House proceeded accordingly to take the said Speech into consideration.*

MR. PATRICK moved the address in answer to the speech from the throne. He congratulated the country on the return of the Governor.... His absence in Washington and England<sup>8</sup> had been somewhat protracted, but it was a matter of congratulation that during his absence his best efforts had been devoted to promoting the prosperity of this country. The high position which His Excellency occupied<sup>9</sup> [and] his Lordship's high character as a scholar and a statesman<sup>10</sup> rendered him more capable of conferring advantages on this country



than any of his predecessors. There was perhaps no one placed in his position who had ever so effectually directed the attention of the Sovereign of the Empire, and the people of Great Britain, to the exact position of our country as he had done<sup>11</sup>. He particularly alluded in this respect to the dinner which took place in London, and to the effect of the Governor's remarks there in making known the resources of the country to the people of England, who hardly knew that such a place as Canada existed.<sup>12</sup> The House would join in the expression of regret in the speech from the Throne in regard to the destruction of the Parliament Buildings, but he was happy to learn that while only a small portion of the furniture had been rescued from the flames, one half of the invaluable Library was saved and that half of the most importance for Parliamentary reference.<sup>13</sup> He ... rejoiced at the successful attempt to provide for the meeting of Parliament, which he traced to the energy of some leading citizens of Quebec.<sup>14</sup> In regard to the war it was indeed gratifying to know that the two great chivalrous nations of the world, France and England, were united in that important struggle, and this circumstance was particularly gratifying to the people of this country, circumstanced as they were, the descendants of those two great empires, and living together in harmony and unison. The next matter referred to by the Speech was Reciprocity of Trade with the United States. This was a boon which had been long desired and anxiously sought for by the people of this country, and he was happy to say that it had now been proceeded with so far as to be embodied in a Treaty, to give effect to which a measure would be submitted for the consideration of the House during the present session. He was sure that every interest in the country, the agricultural,<sup>15</sup> the lumbering, and every other interest must unite in feelings of gratitude to the Government and to the Governor for having so successfully accomplished this object.<sup>16</sup> Had it not been for their exertions, it would not have been attained. It gave to our produce two markets, where we had but one before; and all classes would benefit by its operation.<sup>17</sup> It was with feelings not less gratifying that he noticed the reference in the speech from the Throne to an act bringing into operation the act of last session extending the Elective Franchise.<sup>18</sup> There were people who, notwithstanding all these things, affected to be dissatisfied, because the Houses were not sooner called together, and who complained of the postponement of the Clergy Reserves and Seigniorial Tenure measures. The truth was, the postponement was intended to facilitate the carrying of those two measures.<sup>19</sup> They must all anxiously join in the patriotic wish that a constitutional expression of opinion on the important questions of the Clergy Reserves and the Seigniorial Tenure should be obtained at as early a moment as possible, and that an appeal should be made to the people of the country as speedily as possible. There were no questions that had been so long prominently before the people of this country as these, and none in which they felt so lively and so great an interest<sup>20</sup>. They would be represented by the larger number of members, and it would be the fault of the people themselves if that expression did not lead to carrying the two bills as they wished themselves.<sup>21</sup> On the question of the Reserves, Upper Canada had been agitated from its centre to its circumference. The conservatives had complained very lustily that this question was not to be settled by the present parliament--And why? Because it had so frequently proved the means of their overthrow during electioneering contests and they were very anxious therefore that the question should be settled, in order that the way might be paved to their acquiring that position which they considered their birthright to enjoy to the entire exclusion of others,--Others more sound in their political views had felt uneasy and excited in reference to this mat-

ter, thinking that there was perhaps some under current at work which would defeat their expectations, and among the various rumours by which attempts had been made to satisfy the public mind that this was the case, it had been very currently circulated and insisted upon that because the brother of the present Premier of Canada was to be appointed Bishop of Kingston, there was nothing more certain than that the views of the voluntaries would be sacrificed. He was not in the secret to say whether the brother of the first adviser of the crown in this country was to be Bishop of Kingston or not, but this he knew very well that brothers did not always harmonize in their political or religious opinions. And whatever rumours might be afloat, he was fully satisfied that there was an honest determination on the part of the government to see to it that these questions were settled. But it was of importance that the party desiring the accomplishment of this object should be united, and not allow divisions of sentiment as to the propriety of postponing the settlement of the question to prostrate and nullify their strength. Of the propriety of the postponement he was convinced, for whatever might be said as to Western Canada having frequently pronounced an opinion not to be misunderstood regarding the important question at issue, he was free to confess that at the elections two years ago there was not that evidence of decision of opinion which many professed there was.<sup>22</sup> Some members were elected only for their personal popularity, like the member for Essex for example, whose vote it was well known was frequently very changeable. The member for Peterboro, too, was supposed to be returned on account of personal popularity.<sup>23</sup> It is desirable that in the settlement of the Clergy Reserves and the Seigniorial Tenure questions, there should be a clear majority for the sections of country particularly interested. It was therefore desirable to appeal to the people and he was satisfied that with the power which the representation and franchise acts placed in the hands of the people, success on these great questions would crown the efforts of the liberal party. It was a just subject of congratulation, that the prosperous state of the revenue would admit of a reduction of the tariff. There would be no half way measure on this subject; such an ample reduction would be made on the leading articles of consumption as could not fail to give general satisfaction to the country.<sup>24</sup>

DR. POULIN seconded the motion.<sup>25</sup>

La Chambre a été instruite, pour la première fois, que l'administration se proposait d'introduire des mesures sur divers sujets importants, tels que la tenure seigneuriale, les réserves du clergé, les municipalités, la permanence du siège du gouvernement, avec l'entente toutefois que ces mesures ne deviendraient lois qu'après les élections générales et sous la sanction d'un autre parlement.<sup>26</sup>

(14)

*Mr. Patrick moved, seconded by Mr. Poulin, and the Question being proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his gracious Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present Session;*

*To express to His Excellency the regret we feel that during the Recess the Province has sustained serious loss by fire, in the destruction of the Houses of Parliament and of the Building which was subsequently secured for the temporary occupation of the Legislature, and our satisfaction that the*

(15)

*best arrangements practicable under the circumstances have been adopted for*

our accommodation:

To assure His Excellency that this House heartily responds to the manifestations of loyalty to Her Majesty The Queen, Our Most Gracious Sovereign, and of sympathy with the Parent State, which have been so general throughout the Province, at this conjuncture, when Her Majesty, having failed in Her anxious and protracted endeavours to preserve for Her People the blessings of peace, has felt Herself called upon by regard for an Ally, the integrity and independence of whose Empire has been recognized as essential to the peace of Europe, by the sympathies of Her People with right against wrong, and by a desire to avert from Her Dominions most injurious consequences, to take up arms in conjunction with the Emperor of the French for the defence of the Sultan; and that we believe the cordial co-operation of England and France in this war is well calculated to call forth the sympathies of the Inhabitants of this Country, peopled mainly by the descendants of those two powerful Empires:

That this House learns with satisfaction that His Excellency having, during his recent visit to England been honored by the Queen's command to endeavour to effect the settlement of various important questions bearing upon the interests of the British North American Provinces which had been long pending between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, proceeded to Washington, where, after frank discussion with the Authorities of the United States, he has been enabled to conclude a Treaty, which now awaits ratification, upon terms which, it is His Excellency's firm conviction, will prove in the highest degree advantageous to the Colonies generally, as well as to the United States; and that this House will give proper attention to a measure which may be introduced to give effect to that Treaty:

That this House will also consider attentively the Despatch which His Excellency has received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, when communicated, with reference to the Addresses to the Queen from the two Houses of the Legislature, on the subject of the Constitution of the Legislative Council, transmitted by His Excellency at the close of the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, to be laid at the foot of the Throne:

That this House will give its best consideration to any measure which may be submitted for bringing into early operation the Act of last Session which extends the Elective Franchise, in order that a Constitutional expression of opinion may be obtained as speedily as possible under the system of representation recently established, on the various important questions on which legislation is required:

That this House will give due attention to the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the present year, when laid before them; and that His Excellency may rely on our willingness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Government:

That this House learns with satisfaction that the prosperous condition of the Revenue may allow the making of such reductions in the Tariff as may be compatible with security to the public creditor and efficiency in the Public Service:

That this House has learned with pleasure that His Excellency, during his sojourn in England, received from all quarters proofs of increasing interest in Canadian affairs, and is fully persuaded that His Excellency's acquaintance with the Province, derived from long residence within it, has enabled him to render great service in spreading more widely a knowledge of its resources and of the feelings of the inhabitants:

That they concur with His Excellency in the belief that, although a state



*of warfare has a necessary tendency to restrict operations involving large expenditures of capital, the credit of Canada has attained a position in English opinion which it never before achieved; and that in order to retain it, this House will endeavour to act with prudence in all undertakings,*

(16)

*and to maintain the high character for fidelity to pecuniary engagements which the Province has at all times borne;*

MR. J.S. MACDONALD the SPEAKER ... [lut] les résolutions de la motion de concours<sup>27</sup>.

Immediately thereupon, SIR A. MACNAB rose and demanded that ere the debate proceeded, the House should have an explanation of the Ministerial changes that had occurred during the recess.<sup>28</sup> [Il] dit qu'il était d'usage, dans la conduite des procédés parlementaires, que le ministère donnât, à l'ouverture de la session, des explications sur les remaniements ministériels opérés durant la vacance, et que la Chambre s'attendait à être instruite des causes qui avaient motivé la nomination et le refus subséquent de M. Sicotte d'accepter le portefeuille de Commissaire des Terres de la Couronne.<sup>29</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS, après s'être consulté quelque temps avec M. Morin, se leva<sup>30</sup>. [He] said he was not sure that the changes made were of a nature to require explanation. A member of the government having been appointed to the bench,<sup>31</sup> other changes were necessitated. During the time these changes were made,<sup>32</sup> dans le mois de juin 1853<sup>33</sup>, government had sought the assistance of Mr. Sicotte.--That gentleman was first spoken to upon the subject by the Attorney General for Lower Canada, at Montreal, when he consented to take the Crown Lands Office.<sup>34</sup> La seule condition que M. Sicotte avait alors mise à son acceptation était l'assurance qu'il n'y avait aucun changement dans la politique du ministère depuis la dernière session. Sur une réponse négative, M. Sicotte avait donné à entendre qu'il n'aurait pas d'objection à se joindre à l'administration.<sup>35</sup> But Mr. Sicotte asked nothing about the assembling of Parliament.<sup>36</sup> Cependant, plusieurs des ministres ayant visité le Haut-Canada à cette époque, les négociations firent [sic] interrompues jusqu'au mois d'août suivant, lorsque M. Sicotte fut demandé à Québec pour avoir une entrevue avec ses futurs collègues. M. Sicotte, pour une raison ou pour une autre, ne se rendit à l'invitation que deux ou trois jours après.

Dans l'intervalle qui s'était écoulé entre le mois de juin et le mois d'août, des incidents nouveaux étaient survenus qui avaient altéré les premiers plans de l'administration.<sup>37</sup> After the return of Ministers from Upper Canada, and previous to the departure of the Governor general for England, a change of policy was resolved upon.<sup>38</sup> Les obstacles qui se présentaient à la législation coloniale sur divers sujets d'une haute importance, et qui ne pouvaient être aplanis que par l'intervention du gouvernement impérial, avaient déterminé cette légère déviation.

Le rappel de l'Acte des Tenures, demandé par la Chambre, et l'adresse de la législature provinciale, relative à la constitution du conseil législatif sur une base nouvelle, demandaient l'action du gouvernement de Sa Majesté, avant que le Canada put législater avec fruit sur la Tenure Seigneuriale et sur les autres grandes mesures de réforme qui agitent maintenant l'opinion publique.

En outre, il avait été jugé plus convenable de référer le règlement de ces questions à un parlement qui représenterait plus équitablement les vœux et les sentiments du peuple de cette province, et il avait été jugé à propos

de profiter du séjour de Son Excellence le gouverneur-général en Angleterre pour obtenir plus tôt la solution des difficultés qui se rencontraient dans la voie de notre législation, afin que cette administration pût venir devant le peuple avec un programme explicite et clairement défini.

Toutes ces considérations avaient influencé le mode d'action à suivre, dans l'intérêt général du pays<sup>39</sup>.

Mr. Sicotte had assented to take office before this decision was arrived at; and he did not reach Quebec till the new policy had been adopted. On being informed of the change he did not concur in the views of the government, and refused to accept office. That gentleman would doubtless state his own views, although this might not be the most convenient opportunity for doing so.<sup>40</sup> It was right, however, to mention that<sup>41</sup> previous to his coming down to Quebec on the occasion in question,<sup>42</sup> Mr. Sicotte had attended a meeting of his constituents, where he had<sup>43</sup> seconded a resolution for following up the Clergy Reserves and Seigniorial Tenure questions next session. This might not be the sole reason for his declining to accept office, but he admitted at the time that it was a great embarrassment to him.<sup>44</sup> Mr. Sicotte demanda qu'il lui fût permis de consulter l'opinion de son comté avant de donner son adhésion définitive; mais il devait sentir qu'une démarche de cette nature ne pouvait être autorisée par le ministère, dans une conjecture [sic] aussi délicate.<sup>45</sup>

He (Mr. Hincks) believed that no ministry could go on unless constituen-cies were ready to repose some confidence in the members of it as to minor details.<sup>46</sup> Finalement les négociations furent interrompues.<sup>47</sup>

Mr. Sicotte was asked if he would have resigned had he been in the govern-ment upon his colleagues coming to such a conclusion against his opinion. He would perhaps himself explain his answer; but he (Mr. H.) understood that he would not in that case have broken up the government<sup>48</sup>, et qu'il tâcherait de tirer le meilleur parti possible de la position, mais qu'il ne sentait plus d'inclination, pour le moment, à risquer son existence politique en compagnie de ceux qui se trouvaient engagés dans une passe aussi difficile<sup>49</sup>, [and] that there was a wide difference between going out and coming in on such a question.<sup>50</sup>

Ainsi, le refus de M. Sicotte ne portait sur aucun principe général de gouvernement ou de législation, mais simplement sur le mode d'action qu'il convenait d'adopter, dans la situation embarrassante des affaires.

De fait, rien n'était matériellement changé dans la politique ministérielle, comme M. Sicotte avait été obligé de le reconnaître lui-même, et la discussion n'avait roulé que sur la question d'expédience.<sup>51</sup> For his own part he did not understand these nice distinctions.<sup>52</sup>

MR. SICOTTE se leva au milieu de l'attention générale.... C'est, en effet, dans le mois de juin 1853 que la proposition lui a été faite d'entrer dans l'administration comme Commissaire en chef des Terres de la Couronne.<sup>53</sup> When that offer was made, the first question he asked was whether there would be any alteration in the policy of the government; whether the proceedings of last session were to be continued, and to make himself the better understood, he used the words, "Must I understand that the policy of last session is to be proceeded with?" To this inquiry he received an affirmative answer.<sup>54</sup> Dans plusieurs entrevues qu'il avait eues, vers cette époque, avec certains ministres, il avait toujours eu l'assurance que le gouvernement était disposé à suivre activement la ligne de conduite qu'il s'était tracée durant la dernière session. L'hon. Inspecteur Général lui-même, avec qui il avait eu une conversation, lui avait dit clairement et explicitement que l'administration reprendrait, durant la session prochaine, les derniers errements de la session précédente. Il avait donc lieu de s'attendre que la question de la Tenure Seigneuriale et celle des Réserves du Clergé, dont la solution venait d'être

autorisée par le gouvernement impérial, viendraient sur ce tapis.

Satisfait de ces explications et de ces assurances réitérées, il avait promis d'accepter le portefeuille qui lui était offert, et il avait publiquement donné connaissance de son intention à ses électeurs.<sup>55</sup> He afterwards received through a third party<sup>56</sup> a short telegraphic despatch directing him to come down to Quebec. He delayed a few days before starting. One of the reasons for doing so was that<sup>57</sup> il avait convoqué une assemblée de son comté, afin de prendre le sens de l'opinion sur les points principaux de la politique ministérielle et particulièrement sur la question d'abolition de la Tenure Seigneuriale, telle qu'envisagée dans le bill de M. Drummond, qu'il (M. Sicotte) avait chaudement supporté durant la dernière session.

Des résolutions furent introduites par certaines personnes, blâmant les vues de l'administration sur cette question particulière, et remerciant le Conseil Législatif d'avoir fait échouer les efforts et les travaux de la Chambre d'Assemblée; et cette opposition venait précisément de la personne en qui l'administration a maintenant assez de confiance pour l'avoir nommé Inspecteur des Agences et Bois de la Couronne, avec un salaire de £100,<sup>58</sup> and the superintendence of an expenditure of £20,000 on the roads in the Townships.<sup>59</sup>

Néanmoins, il avait réussi à faire prononcer le comité de St. Hyacinthe dans le sens de l'administration<sup>60</sup>. He was of opinion that the Administration was pledged to use every means in their power to dispose of the Seigniorial Tenure question next session.<sup>61</sup> Cette circonstance avait occasionné le retard que semblait lui reprocher l'Inspecteur-Général.<sup>62</sup> On arriving at Quebec in obedience to the telegraphic summons, the first member of the government with whom he had an interview, was the then Provincial Secretary, Mr. Morin, from whom he learned the new policy of the administration--that the government had determined not to proceed to legislate by the present Parliament on important measures on which such difference of opinion existed, such as the Clergy Reserves and Seigniorial Tenure.<sup>63</sup>

Surpris de cette déclaration subite et inattendue, il s'était hâté de se mettre en communication avec l'exécutif, et il avait eu l'occasion de se convaincre de l'exactitude de cette assertion. Alors, il s'était considéré délié de sa parole et avait refusé formellement de donner sa coopération au ministère.

Les raisons qui lui avaient été données alors pour justifier l'attitude nouvelle qu'avait prise l'administration ne lui avaient pas paru concluantes. Puisqu'on ne voulait pas entreprendre la solution de questions importantes pendant l'existence du parlement actuel, il fallait le dissoudre de suite et faire de nouvelles élections générales<sup>64</sup>, since no ministry could be allowed to go on without a competent Parliament for 18 months or 2 years, unless such a government was prepared to violate the constitution for the sake of keeping power.<sup>65</sup> Ceci n'aurait pas empêché le gouverneur général d'aller en Angleterre et de travailler à applanir [*sic*] les obstacles qui pouvaient s'opposer à une législation immédiate sur la Tenure Seigneuriale et sur la constitution du Conseil Législatif.<sup>66</sup> He urged the ministry to change their intention in this regard, but failed<sup>67</sup>.

Si cette ligne de conduite eut été adoptée, le gouvernement se trouverait aujourd'hui en état d'obtenir "l'expression constitutionnelle de l'opinion publique" sur tous les sujets importants de législation; et au lieu d'une session nulle, on pourrait travailler avec fruit dans la voie des réformes si ardemment désirées.

Au reste, il croyait alors, comme aujourd'hui, que le parlement actuel est compétent à législater sur toutes les questions d'intérêt public et il



n'avait vu, dans les explications ministérielles, que des prétextes plus ou moins spécieux pour reculer indéfiniment la solution de ces questions, tout en conservant les profits et les honneurs du pouvoir.<sup>68</sup>

As the Inspector general had stated, the question was put to him, whether, had he been a member of the administration at the time of the adoption of the new policy, he would have resigned, but he was bound to add that that question was put when his views were fully known to the administration.<sup>69</sup> He replied laughingly to the question, that if asked to cross a dangerous stream, if once in the boat<sup>70</sup>, and fairly into the current, it would be stupidity on his part not to work to the utmost of his ability along with the others to prevent destruction.<sup>71</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS.--Hear! Hear!<sup>72</sup>

MR. SICOTTE: If the hon. gentleman who cried hear thought the ministry were drowning, he (Mr. S.) was happy that he was not<sup>73</sup> in their boat. (Great laughter.)<sup>74</sup> Etant encore sur la rive, il n'avait aucun désir de mettre le pied dans une frêle embarcation, et quand il avait entendu gronder l'orage d'un bout à l'autre de la province, il s'était fort félicité d'avoir fait cet acte de prudence.<sup>75</sup> He however did not say that in the ministry he would not resign. He merely said, "I am on shore, and have nothing to do with you but to give you good advice." To test the question thoroughly, however, he asked leave to appeal to his constituents and inform them of the truth, as he would not begin his ministerial career by deceiving those friends who would elect him to continue the old policy. He was told he must confine his disclosures to his friends; but on submit[t]ing a list, only one name was pointed out with whom he might communicate.<sup>76</sup>

SIR A. MACNAB said if he rightly understood the explanation, it was this--that if Mr. Sicotte accepted the office it was with the understanding that the Clergy Reserves and Seigniorial Tenure questions were to be proceeded with next session.<sup>77</sup> It had certainly been understood by the people of Upper Canada, that this long contested question of the Clergy Reserves would be settled immediately.<sup>78</sup> It had been said by the mover of the address that some members would be re-elected no matter how they might vote on this question. But the party of the gentlemen opposite had kept this question open for twenty-five years<sup>79</sup>, and the country anxiously desired that it should be disposed of. The present government had great influence in this House, and year after year had had a large majority at their command, but still they did not proceed to the settlement of this question. He did not believe they desired to do so. It was a most convenient question for them at the elections, and it was again reserved for the next election to be made use of as had been done on former occasions. He hoped the House would not pass over without notice the extraordinary manner in which the pledged faith of the Government, and also of her Majesty's Representative on the subject of the time for the meeting of Parliament had been broken. It was well known that for many years the people of this country had been annoyed at the irregular manner in which Parliament had been summoned, the time for its meeting having been fixed not to suit the convenience of the people of the country, or the convenience of the members of the House, but simply the convenience of the Government.<sup>80</sup> It was usual, on this matter, to plead the prerogative [sic] of the Crown; but the truth was it was the prerogative [sic] of ministers.<sup>81</sup> So strong was the feeling on the point that last session the hon. member for Kent introduced a bill, providing that Parliament should meet early in February. That bill would have been carried but for the suggestion of hon. gentlemen on the oppo-

site side of the House, that the proper way of proceeding would be by Address to his Excellency<sup>82</sup>, and that an address would answer all the purposes of a bill. The bill was accordingly withdrawn, and the address to the Governor General substituted. In reply to that address, the Governor-general instructed Mr. Morin to report that the Governor would not fail to give due weight to the opinions of the House, and there was an understanding that Parliament would be called in February. Instead of this understanding being acted upon, Parliament is not called till the very last day but one when it is required by law to meet. It was true, the Parliament House had been burned, but this building was in existence. He was aware there was no law in England fixing the time for the meeting of Parliament; but it was well understood at what time it should meet, and for years past, the House of Commons had not failed to meet in February. Was it of no importance that members should be able to tell their constituents when Parliament would meet?<sup>83</sup> He asked then whether in this matter the House had been treated with that courtesy and that consideration to which they were entitled at the hands of the Government. Certainly not, and the House would not act fairly by themselves if they suffered such a breach of faith, he could call it nothing else, to be practised with impunity.<sup>84</sup> His opinions on the Clergy Reserves were well known; but he was prepared to meet the question, and he desired to meet it in this House.<sup>85</sup>

DR. POULIN ... then addressed the House in French in support of the resolution.<sup>86</sup> [He] went over most of the topics of the speech in the same way as had been already done by the mover of the address, saying however that he considered it was a matter of the first necessity to change the present ambulatory system of Government. This was rendered more imperative by the late accidents, for to build two Parliament houses would cost £200,000, whereas it was not necessary to do more than build one at half that cost. In fact the cost of rendering the additions to the salaries of officers of the Legislature, and the other expenses of a similar kind, would amount to a capital exceeding £500,000.<sup>87</sup>

MR. MARCHILDON then addressed the House in French in support of the resolutions.<sup>88</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD said he had never in his life been more disappointed with a speech from the Throne than with that delivered on Tuesday. It was empty of anything useful, instructive, or practical, and referred [*sic*] merely to matters which were familiar to every child in the country. His Excellency told them that the Houses of Parliament had been destroyed by fire. He told them that he had caused accommodations to be provided for their meeting [*sic*]. He informed them of the Eastern War, and that her Majesty and her ally were offering support and giving powerful assistance to the Sultan of Turkey. He told them about all these matters which were perfectly familiar as matters of history to all of them, but not one subject of importance did he commend to their consideration except the Reciprocity Treaty. His Excellency informed them that it would be necessary to pass a law bringing into early operation the act of last session for extending the Elective Franchise, in order that a constitutional expression of opinion might be obtained as speedily as possible on the important question[s] now before the country.--These he apprehended were the Clergy Reserves and the Seignoral [*sic*] Tenure, but if the house was incompetent to legislate on them, how did it happen that it was to be required to legislate on the question of the greatest and most vital importance to the interests of this country! If they were capable of legislating on that great commercial question which involved the interests not of

Canada alone, but of the lower Provinces also, why did his Excellency hesitate to recommend them to legislate on the Clergy Reserves, the Seignioral Tenure, or any other matter in which the Province was interested? He believed [sic] the true explanation that the government wanted this Reciprocity secured during the present session, in order to give them popularity at the forthcoming election, while they left the Reserve and the Seignioral [sic] questions open, that they might have an opportunity of expressing great liberality of sentiment, and inducing their constituents [sic] to return them to power by promises of settling these questions in a manner in accordance with their sentiments.<sup>89</sup> There was nothing to remark upon the speech except its omissions. Among these it was remarkable that there was no explanation of the delay to meet Parliament according to the pledge given last session. Public rumour charged members of the Government with being parties in speculations involving the improper use of public money for their own benefit,<sup>90</sup> with purchasing the public lands through the medium of friends so as to put money into their own pockets, and with many other things of a character in accordance with these<sup>91</sup> and for which, if there were any tribunal for the purpose, they would deserve to be impeached.<sup>92</sup> They were charged too with having issued a large amount of public debentures, and selling them to assist the Grand Trunk Railroad, contrary to the Act of Parliament. When such charges were made, the earliest opportunity should have been taken of convening Parliament, instead of allowing month after month to pass over without the refutation of statements which certainly tended to destroy the respect in which the government should be held throughout the country, and abroad as well.<sup>93</sup> He did not say whether these charges were true; but they were made on the authority of public rumor, and they all remembered that on one occasion a public servant had been discharged on the strength of public rumor. He alluded to Mr. Ferres.<sup>94</sup> It was most extraordinary ... that these rumours had been suffered to go on without any attempt to have them cleared up in a Parliamentary manner. Especially if they found it necessary to issue the bonds, ought they not to have taken the advice of Parliament?<sup>95</sup> If Parliament had been called in February, as it ought to have been, it could have been consulted as to the issue of these debentures. He did not say that the object for which these debentures were issued was an improper one; it might be a very proper object; but the government had exceeded its powers in issuing them without the consent of Parliament.<sup>96</sup> They preferred to do the thing upon their own responsibility.<sup>97</sup> If there were no truth in these charges, Parliament should have been called to deny them. The Governor General had been very improperly eulogized by the mover of the address. Under responsible government the Governor was not known.<sup>98</sup> As to the Clergy Reserves his opinions were well known; but he wanted the question settled so that it might not again be dragged before the public merely to get the necessary support for the administration. He however did not expect any legislation, except what was intended to keep Government in power at the coming election. For his own part he did not believe in the incompetence of the present Parliament, and approved of the declaration of the Inspector General in the last session, that it did not follow that Parliament must be dissolved because the representation was increased.<sup>99</sup> They had been constitutionally elected, and the fact of their having extended the Franchise did not make them incompetent to discharge their duties as representatives of the project for the period for which they were elected.<sup>100</sup> He then read, but did not move his amendment;--

"To express to his Excellency the regret we feel that His Excellency had not been advised to convene Parliament at an earlier period, and in accordance



with an Address of this House to His Excellency on that subject during its last Session, designating the beginning of the month as the most convenient time for the general interests of the country."<sup>101</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS recalled attention to the understanding entered into on the first day of the session as to the amendments to be proposed to the address. He had felt that it was right to give some time to prepare these amendments and have them printed, but he had also mentioned the reasonableness of their being ready by to-day; and he thought that there was an understanding on this point; but no amendment had yet been moved. The member for Toronto (Mr. Sherwood) had made a speech but sat down without moving any amendment. He thought the reference made to the Governor General by the member for Toronto, was in bad taste. On no occasion had he (Mr. Hincks) ever desired to take credit for the personal acts of the Governor General; and he thought it was not out of place in the mover of the address to refer to the Governor General as the negotiator of the Reciprocity treaty, and to express the feelings of gratification at the success attained in that negotiation which pervades the Province. For his part he was always willing to take the responsibility of every act of the government which might become a subject of censure; but if there was any credit due for any act, he was willing that it should be enjoyed by the Governor General.<sup>102</sup> He had been a little surprised at the observations of the honourable and gallant knight, the member for Hamilton, in reference to the Clergy Reserves. They had been told that for 25 years they would not settle the Clergy Reserves as if that had been enti[r]ely the fault of gentlemen on the government side of the House, who were hostile to the existing settlement. Had not the views of the present Administration on the subject been announced in the most distinct and positive manner? And whatever attempts might be made to hold up the ministry to censure by representing that they were unfavourable to those views which they were known to entertain, and which they were pledged to carry out as solemnly as public men could be pledged to any measure, gentlemen opposite knew very well that<sup>103</sup> it was not possible for the government to propose any other settlement than secularization; and all statements to the contrary were but misrepresentations.<sup>104</sup> It was well known to be the intention of the Government to bring forward bills this session for their settlement, so that people might have a knowledge of what was proposed.<sup>105</sup> Honourable gentlemen opposite called upon the Government to settle that question at once. Could it be supposed for one moment that<sup>106</sup> the members for Hamilton and Toronto [were] sincere in saying that they desired the settlement of the Reserves question, when they and their party had always opposed its settlement. If Government had proposed to settle the question this session, almost on the eve of a general election, and [in] the ... [face] of the amended representation and the extended franchise bills, what an outcry would have been made that there was a desire on their part to evade an expression of public opinion on the question.<sup>107</sup> Would not a universal cry have been raised by Conservative members and those who held their views throughout the country, about the monstrous crime the Government were going to commit.<sup>108</sup> Those who were now loudest in calling for a settlement, would be the first to taunt the ministry<sup>109</sup>. The Warden of the County of York had, when the question was brought up by one of the members of that body, pronounced the principle a correct one, and had been sustained by a vote of the council.<sup>110</sup> No one who considered the question for a moment could entertain a doubt that<sup>111</sup>, with the increased representation act pending, it was proper that there should be an appeal to the people before legislating on any important questions on which great difference of opinion exists<sup>112</sup>, and that



an opportunity should be given to the country of expressing its opinions in a constitutional way. In saying so, however, he by no means consented to the expressions which had been put into his mouth<sup>113</sup> by an opposition member; he had never said that this house is incompetent to legislate. There might be different opinions on the point. Some might think it highly desirable to legislate; and others hold exactly the opposite opinion; but he regarded it as a matter of high political expediency to take the opinion of the country on questions on which there is a great difference of opinion.<sup>114</sup> He had stated last session that in all similar cases of increase in the representation, the House had been dissolved, yet he had no doubt afterwards<sup>115</sup>, as stated by an opposition member, stated ... that a dissolution would not necessarily follow the passing of the representation bill; and he saw in that nothing inconsistent with refraining from legislating on great questions<sup>116</sup> like the Reserves and the Tenure<sup>117</sup>, on which a wide difference of opinion exists, till the sense of the country is taken.<sup>118</sup> In reference to the time of the meeting of Parliament, when the answer was made to the address, moved by the Honourable member for Kent, fixing upon February,<sup>119</sup> Government announced that it was anxious to have Parliament meet when it would best suit the wishes and convenience of the people. It was then the intention of Government to have Parliament meet in February.<sup>120</sup> That intention continued till a very short time previous to the month of February, but circumstances then arose which clearly showed the expediency of not having the matter settled by an Act of Parliament. At the time the reply was made to the address not a member of the Government was aware of the intention of the Governor General to go to England<sup>121</sup> on leave of absence. He did go, however, with the intention of coming back, if at all, in the Spring, in time enough for Parliament in February or a little after. This created some difficulty about the precise time, to which must be added that growing out of the question in England relating to<sup>122</sup> a very important address, involving the question as to the constitution of the other branch of the Legislature, and when it was necessary for the Government to consider the time for the meeting of Parliament, not only had no decision been come to by the Imperial Government in regard to the Legislative Council, but no positive information had been received as to whether the Governor General was to come back at all or not. The fact was that the question of his coming back might have been very much affected by the decision of the Government in regard to the time appointed for the meeting of Parliament.<sup>123</sup> He had no doubt that if the Governor General had not returned; but a new one appointed, and come out, Parliament would have been called at the time stated.<sup>124</sup> During the suspense the Parliament House was burned, and it then became plain that the House could not meet till towards the beginning of June.<sup>125</sup> He believed that, whether in joke or otherwise, insinuations had been made in the public journals that actually the Parliament Buildings were set on fire either by himself or at his instigation for the purpose of preventing the meeting of Parliament, but he was satisfied there was no one throughout the country who felt more severely the loss than experienced than the members of the administration generally.<sup>126</sup> The member for Toronto would not, he thought, make that charge against him.<sup>127</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD: I don't believe you did it, (laughter.)<sup>128</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS continued: He then went to England himself, though he had certainly entertained no intention of doing so, and therefore could not have been influenced by that motive to ... set the Parliament House on

fire.<sup>129</sup> The member for Hamilton had referred to some member of the Government travelling about; and perhaps the reference was to himself. He (Mr. H.) did not go to England on public business or at the public expense; although he was most anxious to have the Legislative Council question pressed to a decision.--Considering that all these things had occurred, he did not think much fault could be found with Government for not calling Parliament sooner. He did not seek to take advantage of the circumstance of the fire having occurred. At the time when Parliament would otherwise have met, the Government were waiting to see whether the Governor General would return. Government could have no strong motive for delaying the meeting of the House, for if they were to be sent out by a vote of this House, three months sooner or later, could make very little difference; their salary for that period could not be supposed to be a temptation.<sup>130</sup> As to the Legislative Council, considering the war absorbed so much attention, much progress had been made. In the beginning of the year too there was news that a more favorable opinion prevailed in the States with reference to reciprocity, and it was desirable to forward that as much as possible. There was still another obstacle to the meeting of Parliament earlier. Not only had the representation been increased, but the franchise extended<sup>131</sup>. As to what had been said about the franchise extension act, he believed there was no opposition to it when it passed through the House; and that there was not even a division upon it. The period of its coming into operation was now made subject of censorious remark; but it was not possible that it could have been brought into operation at an earlier period than late in this year; the names having to be placed on the assessment rolls; and the work to be done could not be done any sooner.<sup>132</sup>

MR. SICOTTE:--you could have done before, what you intend to do now.<sup>133</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS continued. The act could not have been brought into earlier operation than was now proposed. Government was anxious to appeal to the people at the earliest possible moment--during this summer or early in the fall.<sup>134</sup> It would have been more unconstitutional in his opinion to legislate with the lesser number of members than with a house chosen by less than the proper number of electors.<sup>135</sup> He was happy to hear the hon. and gallant Knight, and the hon. and learned member for Toronto, admitting in regard to the Reserves, that their cause was hopeless, and no doubt they would a great deal rather that it did not come up at the next elections, but should be settled now.<sup>136</sup> The members for Hamilton and Toronto had admitted, that public opinion in Upper Canada demands a settlement of the Reserves question. He wished to call the attention of Lower Canada members to this admission.<sup>137</sup> He did not believe, however, that the public of Canada would be satisfied with that settlement of the question.<sup>138</sup> If any other course than the one pursued had been taken, it would have been denounced by these gentlemen as monstrous.<sup>139</sup> Gentlemen by speaking of the popularity ministers expected from keeping open the Reserve question, proved the public approbation of the views of the Administration on that subject. He fully sympathised with them, in having attached themselves to the support of a species of property, which those who held did not desire to give up; but which the majority of the people was opposed to.<sup>140</sup> The party had taken up a position on this question, as the gallant Knight says, twenty-five years ago, and they cannot get out of it.<sup>141</sup> This position doubtless destroyed the influence of these gentlemen, and they would be much better pleased to see the difficulty removed from their path.<sup>142</sup> He did not believe that the opinion of Upper Canada would justify legislation on the question in the

present position of things. It would not be creditable to attempt that measure on the eve of an election, when important changes have been made in the representation and the franchise. No loss would result from the delaying of a few months. He did not believe that any liberal member would stand up in his place and say that he believes there is a majority against the government plan of disposing of the Reserves. The member for Toronto has denounced the speech as being unworthy of consideration, as having in it nothing worth considering; and then with strange inconsistency declaring the Reciprocity treaty of the highest importance, and that the government wish to gain popularity by it. Then of the War, he said it was a mere matter of history. Did the hon. gentleman think that it was not worth while to refer to the fact, that Great Britain is at war, and to the demonstrations of loyalty which that circumstance has evoked in this Province? He certainly thought some importance should be attached to the fact that the state of the revenue is one of such prosperity as to admit of a reduction of the tariff. No one had gone the length of saying that Parliament was absolutely incompetent to legislate. It was not desirable that it should deal with important questions on which there was a wide difference of opinion. But it was absolutely necessary to deal with the Reciprocity treaty with which a foreign power is concerned. Our flour was going into consumption in the United States and paying the duty. It was desirable that the treaty should go into effect so as to insure its advantages for the crop of this year.<sup>143</sup> With regard to the personal charges referred to by the member for Toronto,<sup>144</sup> there would be opportunity for dealing with those questions, but it was not desirable to do so in the debate in answer to the speech. The issue of Debentures on account of the Grand Trunk Railway Company had been referred to by the member from Toronto. Every word uttered by the hon. member on that subject, was a misrepresentation of the facts.<sup>145</sup> The issue of bonds ... was certainly in conformity to the spirit, and he believed to the strict letter of the law, and was the exact counterpart of the course previously adopted towards other railways--the Portland for instance,<sup>146</sup> which had received public aid for the last two or three years, and to which no objection had ever been taken by any one so far as he was aware. And unquestionably, even should there be some difference of opinion as to the letter, the course taken had been in entire accordance with the spirit of the Act of Parliament?<sup>147</sup>

MR. BROWN.--No! No!<sup>148</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS.--To what part of my statement does the Honourable member take exception.<sup>149</sup>

MR. BROWN.--If the Hon. Inspector-General has taken the same course in issuing Debentures with regard to other Railroads, as he has done with regard to the Grand Trunk, the public has up to this moment been unaware of it, and the House has been unaware of it. I consider it a most disgraceful statement for a member of the Government to make, that he has been issuing Debentures, not only during the past recess, but during previous recesses without the sanction of Parliament, and in spite of express provisions of Acts of Parliament.<sup>150</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS.--The Debentures stated were issued in exactly the same way as in other cases, and the course taken was strictly in accordance with the spirit, and I believe, with the letter of the Act of Parliament.<sup>151</sup> He knew it was according to the intent of it when passed.<sup>152</sup>



MR. SHERWOOD.--Will the Hon. gentleman explain how they were issued?<sup>153</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS then explained that the Government had allowed the Debentures to be negotiated at the risk of the companies, but retained the money under their own control, only issuing it as the work advanced. This was the only mode practicable. The falsest slanders had been circulated on this subject by those who had assailed the conduct of the Government. It had been alleged that the money had gone into the hands of the contractors, but not one single dollar had gone into the contractors' hands beyond which they were entitled to as the work advanced<sup>154</sup>, and that upon certificates of the amount of work done<sup>155</sup>. Up to this time, he believed, the whole amount of money issued to the Contractors of the Grand Trunk was £200,000. The course which had been taken was in accordance with the intentions of the Act of Parliament.<sup>156</sup> He admitted a Government desirous like the member for Kent of destroying the whole project might have found the means in the law to do so, by the aid of some quibbling attorney.<sup>157</sup> He did not consider, however, that the moving of the address was the proper occasion for taking up those charges against the government. At the proper time he would be prepared to meet them.<sup>158</sup> It was incorrect to allege that any member of the Government had ever announced that a man may be punished on the authority of "public rumor." "Public notoriety" may be the phrase urged in the case of Mr. Ferres; and there was a great deal of difference between the two expressions. There was a law in England which forbids any officer of the revenue voting at an election; that law had been enacted in this country. Mr. Ferres, a revenue officer, did go [to] the Missisquoi election, and there made a speech in the presence of and against Mr. Drummond. There could be no mistake about it--no one ever denied the fact.--the Attorney-General could not be mistaken as to the personal identity of Mr. Ferres, by whom an act of Parliament was violated. Government had always been sustained by Parliament in the act of dismissing the offender.<sup>159</sup>

MR. MURNEY next addressed the house, and commented in strong terms on the breach of faith on the part of the government in not having summoned parliament to meet in February.<sup>160</sup> [He] considered the speech utterly unworthy of a government claiming the confidence of the people. The Governor and the Administrator ought to have remained at their posts, instead of travelling round the world making political capital. The burning of the House could not have been the cause of the postponement of the session, seeing that it did not happen till February, whereas the House ought to have been summoned in January. Then, as to the Legislative Council, if that had anything to do with the delay, why was nothing said about the intention of ministers on that subject? For his own part, believing the House duly elected by the people, he did not believe in its incompetency.<sup>161</sup> [He] referred to the inaccurate report of Mr. M. Cameron's Perth speech.... He complained that the lists of parties in arrears for lands to the Government had not been completed as they were necessary to be had before an election could be held.<sup>162</sup>

MR. LYON spoke in opposition to the Government at some length.<sup>163</sup> [He] complained of the rambling character of the remarks of those who supported the address.<sup>164</sup> [He] thought the speech insulting to the House. If these obstacles to the meeting of Parliament were the true cause of its postponement, it was the fault of the ministry themselves.<sup>165</sup> After referring to matters which had already been discussed in the course of the debate, [he] said he believed the government had no desire to settle the Clergy Reserves.

Every one who had read the published<sup>166</sup> speeches or writings of the member for Norfolk, must have come to the conclusion that the government intended to legislate immediately on the Reserves and the Tenure; but that these intentions had been changed in consequence of the influence of the Governor General.<sup>167</sup> Then came the speech by the hon. member for Huron (Mr. Cameron) at the Perth dinner, confirming the impression that his Excellency was opposed to secularization, and that the government had yielded to his views. The same thing was confirmed by an expression in his Excellency's speech in England, that he had always advised his Canadian friends to legislate with regard to the rights of property as carefully as they had done in England<sup>168</sup>. This was universally supposed to refer to the Clergy Reserves, and he was informed by a gentleman, once a colleague of the Inspector General, that it also applied to the Seignioral Tenure question.<sup>169</sup>

MR. POST. GEN. CAMERON.--The honourable gentleman must know that at Perth I stated the very reverse of what he has said. The statement made has been twice contradicted.<sup>170</sup> It would have been absurd, for everybody knew ministers could not, as they promised, introduce a bill to abolish the Reserves without the Governor's consent.<sup>171</sup>

MR. LYON--What was the use of speaking of it then? He asked if the present Parliament were not competent, why ministers had not got one that was. If the present Parliament did not represent the people, perhaps the next would adopt universal suffrage, and then it would not represent them, and then what would become of the Reserves for another session?<sup>172</sup>

MR. ROBINSON--If he understood the thing rightly, Mr. Cameron's contradiction amounted to this--that the Perth reporter had left out a "not," so as to make it read the Governor General "was" opposed to secularization.<sup>173</sup>

MR. POST. GEN. CAMERON said yes.<sup>174</sup>

MR. ROBINSON--Then see how absurd that would read with the other paragraph, "Lord Elgin was not opposed to the secularization of the Reserves," "The Head of the Government now in England refused his assent to a bill for secularization." "Lord Elgin had a right to refuse his assent, and the ministry had no right to force him, if he refused they had only the right to resign."<sup>175</sup> The whole paragraph was such that the supplying of that word would in no degree get quit of the difficulty.<sup>176</sup>

MR. POST. GEN. CAMERON said there was not a word of truth in the report.<sup>177</sup> If you had read the next number of the Bathurst Courier, you would find that the editor said he had reported from memory and not from short hand notes. (Oh!)<sup>178</sup>

MR. ROSE spoke at some length in support of the address. He bore witness that what Mr. Hincks had stated to be the intent of the Grand Trunk Railway act in regard to the issue of debentures was understood by him at the time. He was aware that in many Municipalities they were not ready to carry the franchise act into effect.<sup>179</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN explained why it was that the returns of parties who held land from the crown were not yet completed. Every effort had been made to complete the returns by employing additional hands and working to late hours, but it had been found impossible as yet to get through with the whole of the work.<sup>180</sup>

MR. GAMBLE had no doubt of it; but were the efforts to prepare these lists

commenced as soon as the bill had passed making them necessary? At the present period of the year they were utterly useless, as the Revision Courts had had to decide in May, and he desired to know what provision government had made for carrying out the law, so as to prevent the representation of the country from being influenced by the votes of persons indebted to the Crown, and therefore exposed to the influence of the government.<sup>181</sup> The Government [were enabled] to exert a considerable amount of undue influence at the elections, if they were disposed to do so.<sup>182</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN said means would be taken to carry out the law-- what these means were it was not the time to say.<sup>183</sup>

(16)

*The Honorable Mr. Sherwood moved in amendment to the Question, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Macdonald, That after the word "Session" at the end of the first paragraph, the words "To express to His Excellency the regret we feel that Parliament had not been convened at an earlier period, and in accordance with an Address of this House to His Excellency on that subject, during its last Session, designating the beginning of the month of February as the most convenient time for the general interests of the Country" be inserted; And a Debate arising thereupon;*

As MR. SHERWOOD was commencing to speak in support of his motion,<sup>184</sup>

(16)

*Mr. Egan moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Badgley, and the Question being put, That the Debate be adjourned until Monday next; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Badgley, Cauchon, Dubord, Dumoulin, Egan, Gamble, Jobin, La-Perrière, LeBlanc, Sir A.N. MacNab, Marchildon, Papineau, Polette, Robinson, Sherwood, and Valois.--(16.)*

NAYS.

*Messieurs Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Clapham, DeLong, Attorney General Drummond, Fergusson, Fournier, Hartman, Hincks, Langton, Laurin, Lemieux, Mackenzie, Mattice, Mongenais, Morin, Murney, Poulin, Rolph, Rose, Sanborn, Smith of DURHAM, Tessier, Turcotte, and Wright of East Riding of YORK.--(26.)<sup>185</sup>*

*So it passed in the Negative.*

*And the Question being again proposed, That after the word "Session" at the end of the first paragraph of the Main Question, the words "To express to His Excellency the regret we feel that Parliament had not been convened at an earlier period, and in accordance with an Address of this House to His Excellency on that subject, during its last Session, designating the beginning of the month of February as the most convenient time for the general interests of the Country," be inserted;*

*And a further Debate arising thereupon;*

MR. SHERWOOD proceeded to remark on the inconvenience of calling Parliament together at the present time, and to contend that the interests of the country demanded a fixed time, which should be generally agreed upon as the most convenient. He had no wish to infringe on the royal prerogative and have that time fixed by law, although the time for the meeting of all our superior law courts was so fixed. He held that it was the duty of the House to express its opinion strongly, and decidedly at the present time, in order to insure the calling of the next session according to its wishes.<sup>186</sup>



MR. J.A. MACDONALD of Kingston said that there was not only the promise contained in the answer to the address of the House by the Governor that the session should be called in February, but there was a positive pledge given by the head of the administration in that House, given as an inducement to withdraw a bill that parliament should be called in February. The hon. member for Kent withdrew his bill on that pledge. He accepted the word of the hon. Inspector General, and the House was satisfied that the English system should be followed, and a fixed time for the meeting of Parliament be understood, without any positive law. That promise amounted to a pledge of honor, but how had it been kept? To say that the Governor General had been a long time in this country and wanted to go home was no good reason for violating that pledge.<sup>187</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said he had not given that as a reason for postponing the meeting of Parliament. At the time the Governor General left, it was not known, if he would ever return to Canada.<sup>188</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD would like to know then what was the reason? He believed none could be given, further than a mere caprice or resolve of the government, that it was not convenient to meet parliament before June. Without any reason that they could assign, the government stood before the country as wanton breakers of a solemn pledge. He (Mr. Macdonald) regretted that, for he thought it of importance that when a member of that House gave a pledge that it should be kept, at any sacrifice. No person reading the address as it now stood on the Journals could fail to recognise in it a pledge on the part of the Governor, that the session should be called in February, so that his faith was violated as well as that of the minister. Had the parliament been called in February, there might have been a large amount of useful legislation which the country wanted; and many enterprises might have been proceeded with that now were stopt until another year. The government told them, that they were met as it were for a matter of form, just to pass a few measures ... that they wanted and then be sent home. They were promised, that an immediate dissolution would follow, but what security was the house to have that this promise of dissolution would not be like the promise to meet in February? One promise had been broken, why not another. How did they know that they would not be sent home in July 1854 to be called together in July 1855? Was such a course not even likely after the treatment they had already received?<sup>189</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND said the hon. member made charges in so very smiling a manner that he could not think him in earnest.<sup>190</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD said the matter was not a laughing one and he was in earnest.<sup>191</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND: well the hon. member smiled over it nevertheless. If they were to look at the conduct of previous administrations he did not see that the hon. gentleman would have much to say on the score of calling Parliament, but he (Mr. D.) was aware that two blacks did not make one white, and if the government had not had good reasons for postponing till the present time the calling of the session, he would admit that they would deserve great censure. But they had good reasons. Further he denied that any pledge was given to call the Parliament in February. The answer to the address contained no such pledge. That answer was very carefully and cautiously worded in view of such a contingency as had actually arisen. It was the duty of a statesman to use such cautions; and no pledge had been broken. The Governor General had been in this country for seven years, and had gone to

England as was known in the autumn of last year, and we did not know if he would again return. In addition to not desiring to call Parliament in the Governor's absence, we desired that while he was in England he should get the repeal of the tenures act, which still trammelled our legislation on the Seignioral [sic] Tenure question before the session was called. That he considered important to have done, and it was considered important that the Governor General should use his influence in England to procure its repeal. The obstacle presented by the Tenures Act was one reason why the Legislative Council threw out the Seigniorial bill passed by the Assembly last session. Then the government were anxious that the Governor while in England should bring the Legislative Council question to a settlement before the meeting of Parliament. While waiting for those things the Parliament House was burnt down, and that rendered it necessary still further to postpone the session. After the two fires it was impossible to call Parliament earlier than the present time. Whatever the majority of that house might say, he believed the country would be satisfied with the cogency of the reasons that induced the postponement. With respect to the pledge said to be given, by his honorable friend, the Inspector General, he had just asked him if he had given any, and was informed that he had not. As to the words of the answer to the address, they were that due weight would be given to the representation of the house, and that had been done.<sup>192</sup>

SIR A. MACNAB held that there was a promise, and that it should not have been made if the government could not carry it out.<sup>193</sup>

MR. ROBINSON considered it unfair to the Governor General to put the delay on his absence. He further contended that during the burning of the Parliament House in Quebec, the government ought to have gone to Toronto, where Government buildings already existed. The buildings in Toronto were quite good enough for the accommodation of Parliament, and Western Canada would have been better satisfied if the government had gone there, than in going to the expense of fitting up buildings in Quebec.<sup>194</sup>

COL. PRINCE, after some remarks personal to himself, contended that this point of the postponement of the meeting of Parliament would afford an opportunity to test the strength of parties, and he believed it would give the opposition an opportunity to give their last dying kick. He proceeded to argue that the government had consulted the best interests of the country in the course they had taken.<sup>195</sup>

MR. LANGTON contended that the excuses of the government were frivolous, and could not see how the government could have intended to call Parliament in February, and wait for the action of the British Parliament in the matters mentioned by the Attorney General, for the British Parliament only met on February 7. He went on to say that it was on the special request of the Inspector General that the bill of the honorable member for Kent had been withdrawn, and on the pledge that Parliament should be called in February.<sup>196</sup>

MR. GAMBLE had listened attentively to the explanations of the government, in the hope that they might have some good reason for not keeping their promise, but he had listened in vain. The illegal issue of debentures to the Grand Trunk Railway Company had been alluded to. With respect to that, he had only to say, that if the Company had stood in want of assistance, he for one, if parliament had been called, would have been ready to grant it, and he held that it would have been better to call parliament early than issue debentures illegally. The government, however, had done worse than

issue debentures illegally--they had broken their solemn pledge. He trusted that the amendment would be carried as well for a lesson to this as future governments.<sup>197</sup>

MR. COM. PUB. WORKS CHABOT, in French, went over the same grounds as other ministers had done in English, and argued that the government had consulted the best interests of the country.<sup>198</sup>

MR. MARCHILDON denounced the government.<sup>199</sup>

(16)

*On motion of Mr. Egan, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Badgley,  
Ordered, That the Debate be adjourned until Monday next.*

*Then, on motion of Mr. Egan, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Macdonald,  
The House adjourned until Monday next.<sup>200</sup>*





[PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO SPEECH FROM THRONE.]<sup>201</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD moves to insert the following words at the end of the first paragraph of the ministerial document:--

"To express to his Excellency the regret we feel that his Excellency had not been advised to convene [sic] Parliament at an earlier period, and in accordance with an Address of this House to His Excellency on that subject during its last Session, designating the beginning of the month of February as the most convenient time for the general interests of the country."<sup>202</sup>

MR. CAUCHON moves to insert the following words at the end of the fourth paragraph:--

"That this House sees with regret that Your Excellency's Government do not intend to submit to the Legislature, during the present Session, a Bill for the immediate settlement of the Seigniorial Question."<sup>203</sup>

MR. CAUCHON also moves to amend the sixth paragraph by striking out all after the word "franchise" and inserting the words:--

"But that as the law to enlarge the Representation, is a free act of the present Parliament, which can have but the strict meaning assigned to it by that Body, and as that law only affects the next Parliament, the present one retains, in respect of the Constitution, the power ascribed to it by public opinion, of determining any Legislative measure, whatever be its importance, and that Your Excellency's Government acknowledged the existence of that power by continuing to propose to both Houses during the last Session, the adoption of the Seigniorial Bill, after the passing of the Representation Bill."<sup>204</sup>

MR. SICOTTE moved [sic] to insert the following words at the end of the fifth paragraph:--

"That the Seignoral [sic] Tenure is, in our economic and social condition, opposed to the interests and prosperity of the country, that, notwithstanding the unceasing and energetic expression of opinion by the whole people of this Province condemning it for many years past, it is a matter greatly to be deplored that such tenure has not been abolished, and that this House cannot forbear an expression of its regret that the administration have announced their intention to put off to a future Session and to an indefinite period, any legislation on one of the most important questions, affecting so vitally, so nearly and personally the large majority of the inhabitants of Lower Canada, and in its effects and tendencies, the economic condition of the whole Province."<sup>205</sup>

MR. SICOTTE moves to insert the following words after ... [the sixth] paragraph:--

"That if, however, it is necessary to receive under the rule of the new Representation Act, the constitutional expression of public opinion, in order to be enabled to legislate on the various important matters on which it is expedient to legislate, it was the imperative duty of the administration to use all means to obtain without delay that constitutional expression of public opinion, and that in maintaining for more than twelve months, a state of things in which, as an effect of the legal measures so enacted, the people and their representatives were incompetent to settle their interests by legislation, for the very reason of their paramount importance, a state of things has been and is still maintained, which is opposed to the spirit of our constitution and of the representative system."<sup>206</sup>

MR. LANGTON moves to amend the same paragraph by adding the following words:--

"And this House will consider such a measure the more readily on account of the unexpected and unnecessary delay which has already occurred in the settlement of the Clergy Reserves and the Segniorial [sic] Tenure."207

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO REPEAL SECTION OF 1853 QUEBEC RIOT ACT.]208

MR. R. CHRISTIE [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to repeal the 4th Section of an Act passed in the last Session of the Legislature, Chapter 233, intituled "An act to provide a remedy against the Corporation of the City of Quebec in 'case of injury to Property by any Mob, or during Riots in the said City.'"209

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO AMEND BUILDING SOCIETIES ACT L.C.]210

MR. TESSIER [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to amend the "Act to encourage the establishment of Building Societies in Lower Canada."211

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL FOR L.C. REGISTRY OFFICE SEARCHES.]212

MR. TESSIER [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to remove certain doubts respecting the mode of making searches in the Registry Offices in Lower Canada.213

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL FOR ELECTIVE MAYORALTY IN LONDON.]

MR. DIXON [gave notice that he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to enable the Town of London to elect its Mayor by the people generally.214

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO INCORPORATE LONDON HOTEL COMPANY.]

MR. DIXON [gave notice that he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to Incorporate the London Hotel Company.215

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO CONSOLIDATE LONDON DEBT.]

MR. DIXON [gave notice that he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to consolidate the Debt of the Town of London.216

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: PETERBOROUGH AND MUD LAKE TRAM ROAD COMPANY.]

MR. LANGTON [gave notice that he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate the Peterborough and Mud Lake Tram Road Company.217

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR FERRY PAPERS.]

MR. STUART [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before this House, a copy of such regulations as the Governor in Council may have made to give effect to an Act passed in the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, to regulate Ferries beyond the local limits of the Municipalities in Lower Canada (16 Vict. ch. 212.) and all such Documents or information as His Excellency may possess in relation to the Regulation of Ferrymen and persons conveying passengers for hire across the river St. Lawrence, between the City of Quebec and Point Levi and parts adjacent thereto, and the licensing of ferries there, with a list of the licenses issued under the hand of the Governor of the Province for the time being, or of any person by him duly authorized to that effect, to keep a ferry between the city of Quebec and



Point Levi or places adjacent thereto on the opposite side of the river.<sup>218</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR PAPERS OF COMMISSION ON FIRE IN PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.]<sup>219</sup>

MR. STUART [gave notice that] on Tuesday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that he will be pleased to cause to be laid before the House, any Commission appointing Commissioners to enquire into the origin of the fire which consumed the Parliament buildings in this city since the last meeting of the Legislature, as also the evidence taken under such Commission, and the report of the Commissioners.<sup>220</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR PUBLISHING STATUTES.]

COL. PRINCE [gave notice that he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to appoint a Commission to be composed of persons learned in the Law, to revise and republish the Public General Statutes [sic] of Upper and Lower Canada, and also of United Canada, with all convenient dispatch.<sup>221</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR GEOLOGIST'S REPORTS.]

MR. BADGLEY [gave notice that he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to direct the proper officer to cause to be reprinted for the use of the Members, the several Reports of the Provincial Geologist of Canada which have already been published.<sup>222</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY INTO QUEBEC POLICE.]

MR. DUBORD [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for a] Select Committee of five Members to enquire into and report upon the law expenses incidental to prosecutions in matters of Police in the City of Quebec as well as upon the state and efficiency of the Police therein generally.<sup>223</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION TO REFER PETITION OF THE CLERK AND OTHER OFFICERS TO COMMITTEE OF WHOLE.]

MR. LYON [gave notice that he would move] to refer to a Committee of the Whole that part of the Petition of the Clerk and other Officers and Servants of this House, relating to certain Resolutions adopted in Committee of the Whole last Session.<sup>224</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: JUDGE MONDELET'S REMARKS ABOUT THE QUEEN.]<sup>225</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would make] Enquiry of Ministry, whether any notice has been taken by the Govt. of certain remarks made by Mr. Justice Mondelet, on a recent occasion, while sitting on the Bench of Justice in one of the Superior Courts of Lower Canada, in reference to the War now being carried on between Russia and Turkey, in which he is reported to have designated our Most Gracious Queen as a murderess, and those acting under her as murderers, for taking up arms in conjunction with the Emperor of the French for the defence of the Sultan; and if so, what where [sic] the steps taken in the matter.<sup>226</sup>

FOOTNOTES: 16 JUNE 1854.

1. GLOBE, 22 June 1854, gave the following list of members who had not taken their places in the House by 16 June: "Messrs. Christie (Wentworth), Galt, Johnston, Lacoste, LeBoutillier, McDonald (Cornwall), McDougall, McLachlin, Merritt, Smith (Frontenac), Street, Taché, Terrill, Viger, and White."
2. LE PAYS, 22 June 1854, reported that the following petition, not listed by the JOURNALS, was also read:  
"De Wm. Morrison et autres, de Berthier, district de Montréal, demandant un acte pour prohiber la distillation et la vente des boissons enivrantes, excepté pour les fins de la médecine et des arts."
3. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854.
4. MORNING CHRONICLE, 17 June 1854.
5. IBID.
6. MORNING CHRONICLE, 17 June 1854. The telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 17 June 1854) stated that the address was passed.
7. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 17 June 1854). The following papers reported the debate on this matter in identical accounts: GLOBE, 22 June 1854, HAMILTON GAZETTE, 26 June 1854 (which copied GLOBE), NORTH AMERICAN WEEKLY, 28 June 1854 (which copied GLOBE), and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854, condensed the report of GLOBE, 22 June 1854. The following papers reported the debate in partially identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854, MONTREAL GAZETTE, 20 June 1854, QUEBEC GAZETTE, 20 June 1854, PILOT, 22 June 1854 (which copied MORNING CHRONICLE), LA MINERVE, 22 June 1854, and MONTREAL HERALD (in Scrapbook Hansard). The debate was also reported by: LE PAYS, 20 June 1854 (which included commentary); TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854; and WESTERN PLANET, 28 June 1854. There were also telegraph reports (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 17 June 1854, and MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 19 June 1854). The debate was noted by MORNING CHRONICLE, 17 June 1854. Commentaries appeared in TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854; and GLOBE, 22 June 1854 (which included some report of debate).
8. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
9. HAMILTON GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
10. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
11. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
12. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
13. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
14. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
15. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
16. HAMILTON GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
17. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
18. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
19. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
20. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
21. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
22. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
23. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
24. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
25. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
26. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854, which indicates that the House was informed of this policy during the remarks of the mover or the seconder of the Address

in reply to the Speech.

27. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
28. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
29. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
30. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854. GLOBE, 22 June 1854, commented that Mr. Hincks spoke "in a lame, faltering style."
31. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854, identified the member of the Cabinet appointed to the bench as Mr. Caron: LE PAYS, 20 June 1854, as Mr. Richards.
32. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
33. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
34. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
35. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
36. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
37. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
38. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
39. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
40. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
41. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
42. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
43. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
44. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
45. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
46. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 19 June 1854).
47. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
48. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
49. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
50. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
51. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
52. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
53. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
54. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
55. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
56. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
57. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
58. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
59. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
60. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
61. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
62. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
63. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854, commented, "Ici, Mr. Morin s'éveille en sursaut, pâlit, et fait un signe négatif à M. Hincks qui le couvre de son regard!"
64. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
65. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
66. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
67. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
68. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
69. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
70. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
71. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
72. IBID.
73. PILOT, 22 June 1854.



74. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
75. LE PAYS, 20 June 1854.
76. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
77. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
78. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
79. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
80. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
81. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
82. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
83. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
84. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
85. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
86. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
87. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
88. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
89. HAMILTON GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
90. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
91. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
92. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
93. HAMILTON GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
94. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
95. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
96. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
97. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
98. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
99. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
100. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
101. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
102. IBID.
103. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
104. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
105. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
106. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
107. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
108. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
109. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
110. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
111. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
112. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
113. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
114. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
115. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
116. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
117. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
118. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
119. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
120. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
121. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
122. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
123. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
124. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
125. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
126. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.

127. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
128. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
129. IBID.
130. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
131. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
132. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
133. IBID.
134. IBID.
135. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
136. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
137. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
138. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
139. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
140. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
141. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
142. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
143. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
144. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
145. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
146. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
147. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
148. IBID.
149. IBID.
150. GLOBE, 22 June 1854. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854, commented that Mr. Brown spoke "with strong theatrical ferocity."
151. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
152. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
153. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
154. IBID.
155. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
156. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
157. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
158. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
159. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
160. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
161. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
162. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
163. IBID.
164. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 20 June 1854.
165. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
166. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
167. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
168. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
169. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
170. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
171. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
172. IBID.
173. IBID.
174. IBID.
175. IBID.
176. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
177. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
178. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.

179. TORONTO LEADER, 21 June 1854.
180. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
181. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
182. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
183. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
184. IBID.
185. All papers reported a division of 17 to 25, and EXAMINER, 28 June 1854, in the extract it printed from this day's Votes and Proceedings--the daily equivalent of the JOURNALS--lists Mr. Poulin among the Yeas on this division.
186. PILOT, 22 June 1854.
187. IBID.
188. IBID.
189. IBID.
190. IBID.
191. IBID.
192. IBID.
193. IBID.
194. IBID.
195. IBID.
196. IBID.
197. IBID.
198. IBID.
199. PILOT, 22 June 1854. GLOBE, 22 June 1854, however, lists M. Marchildon among the supporters of the Government at this stage of the debate.
200. GLOBE, 22 June 1854, noted that the House adjourned at 10:30.
201. Printed notices of these amendments were distributed to members and to the press at the request of Mr. Hincks (see the proceedings of 14 June 1854). At least those of Mr. Cauchon were circulated on the 16th, since the correspondent of LE PAYS (20 June 1854), writing on the 16th, received them while writing. It should be noted that these are not notices of motion in the parliamentary sense, no notice being required of an amendment. All of the notices were reported by GLOBE, 22 June 1854, and HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 21 June 1854. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 19 June 1854, also printed them, omitting Mr. Langton's amendment, as did telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 17 June 1854). LE PAYS, 20 June 1854, reported only the amendments of Mr. Cauchon and Mr. Sicotte.
202. GLOBE, 22 June 1854.
203. IBID.
204. IBID.
205. IBID.
206. IBID.
207. IBID.
208. The following papers reported this notice in partially identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854, and EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
209. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854.
210. The following papers reported this notice in partially identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854, and EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
211. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854.
212. The following papers reported this notice in partially identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854, and EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
213. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854.
214. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.



- 215. IBID.
- 216. IBID.
- 217. IBID.
- 218. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854.
- 219. The following papers reported this notice in partially identical accounts:  
MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854, and EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
- 220. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854.
- 221. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
- 222. IBID.
- 223. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854.
- 224. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
- 225. This notice was reported by MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854. There was  
also a telegraph report (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 19 June 1854) of the  
notice.
- 226. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 June 1854.



MONDAY, 19 June 1854.

(16)

THE following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By the Honorable Mr. Chauveau,--The Petition of François Papin and others, School Commissioners for the Parish of St. Charles de l'Industrie, County of Berthier; the Petition of the Reverend C.F. Turgeon and others, residing in the neighbourhood of the Lakes Matchigoche and Mandeville; the Petition of

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P. Marquette, President, and others, on the behalf of the Library Association of the School Teachers of the District of Quebec; the Petition of William Neilson and others, of that part of the Seigniority of St. Gabriel de Valcartier situate north-west of the River Jacques Cartier; and the Petition of Michel Dulac and others, of the neighbourhood of Lake Matchigoche and other places.

By Mr. Dixon,--The Petition of the Town Council of the Town of London; and the Petition of William Barker and others, of the Town of London.

By Mr. Jobin,--The Petition of the Right Reverend the Bishop of Montreal and others, the members of the Corporation of the College of L'Assomption.

By Mr. Fergusson,--The Petition of George S. Tiffany, Esquire, and others; and the Petition of William Powell, Esquire, Chairman, and Thomas Saunders, Clerk of the Peace, on behalf of the Magistrates in General Court of Quarter Sessions for the County of Wellington.

By Mr. Gouin,--The Petition of the Municipality of the Town of Sorel; the Petition of R.N. Watts, Esquire, and others; the Petition of John George Crébassa, President, and others, on behalf of the Library Association and Mechanics' Institute of Sorel; and the Petition of J. Dorion and others, of the County of Richelieu.

By Mr. Cauchon,--The Petition of the North Shore Railway Company; and the Petition of Andrew Stuart, Esquire, and others, of Quebec.

By the Honorable Mr. Badgley,--The Petition of Mrs. Mary Fulford and others, Directresses and Lady Managers of the University Lying-in Hospital, Montreal; the Petition of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Montreal, President, on behalf of the Committee of the National School Society in the City of Montreal; and the Petition of the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal.

By the Honorable Mr. Sherwood,--The Petition of Allan Macdonell and others.

By the Honorable Mr. Young,--The Petition of Sister Ste. J.F. de Chantal, and others, Soeurs de la Maternité Catholique, of Montreal.

By Mr. Street,--The Petition of the Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge Company.

By Mr. Sicotte,--The Petition of Leon Kerouac, School Teacher, of the Town of St. Hyacinthe, and Eléonore Létourneau, his wife.

By Mr. Ridout,--The Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Toronto.

By Mr. Stuart,--The Petition of the Quebec Bank; and the Petition of the Committee of Ladies of the Protestant Female Orphan Asylum at Quebec.

By Mr. Poulin,--The Petition of G.A. de Laval, M.D., Esquire, and others, of the County of Rouville.

By Mr. Langton,--The Petition of Edward O'Donnell and others, of the Township of Emily, County of Victoria; the Petition of James Stevenson, Esquire, Mayor, and others, of the Town of Peterborough; and the Petition of George B. Hall, Esquire, and others, Mill-owners and others, of the County of Peterborough.

By Mr. Seymour,--The Petition of L.W. Nicholls and others; and the Peti-



tion of Abram Dingman and others, of the tenth concession of the Townships of Brighton and Cramahe.

By Mr. Galt,--The Petition of A.T. Galt, Esquire.

By Mr. Cartier,--The Petition of La Banque du Peuple; and the Petition of C. Prefontaine and others, of the County of Verchères.

By Sir Allan N. MacNab,--The Petition of the Hamilton and Toronto Railway Company.

By the Honorable Mr. Rolph,--Two Petitions of the Municipal Council of the County of Norfolk; and the Petition of Abram Duncan, Moderator, and Thomas L. Davidson, Clerk, on behalf of the Annual Convention of the Regular Baptist Churches composing the Grand River Association.

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By Mr. Dubord,--The Petition of the Honorable Pierre J.O. Chauveau and others.

By Mr. Lemieux,--The Petition of the Quebec Friendly Society.

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:--

Of the Municipal Council of the Magdalen Islands; praying [for] the adoption of certain measures for the better organization of a system of Education, and for improving the Administration of Justice in the said Islands.

Of Antoine Normandin and others, of the District of Montreal; praying for the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure in Lower Canada.

Of the Reverend J.L. Guyon and others, of the Parish of Ste. Elizabeth, County of Berthier; praying for aid in behalf of a Female School established in the said Parish.

Of the Reverend T. Paradis and others, of the Town of Three Rivers, the Parish of St. Grégoire, and the Township of Kingsey; praying for aid to improve the Road from the English Church in the said Township to the north-east branch of the Nicolet River.

Of John Boston, Esquire, and others, of the City of Montreal; praying for the passing of an Act for the Drainage of the said City in connection with a Canal from the Lachine Canal, and for the establishment of Docks and Basins, and extensive Wharfage.

Of William Workman, Esquire, and others, of the City of Montreal; praying [for] an Act of Incorporation for the construction and sailing of Steam Vessels adapted to the foreign trade.

Of Thomas M. Taylor and others, Trustees of Zion Church, Montreal, praying for the passing of an Act to enable them to sell, hypothecate, or purchase property according to the requirements of the said Church.

Of the Reverend George Werner and others, of the City of Montreal, the German Evangelical Congregation; praying for an Act of Incorporation, and that their Minister be authorized to Keep Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials.

Of the Kingsey Slate Works Company; praying for an Act of Incorporation granting them certain powers in addition to those they now possess under the Act 13 & 14 Vic. cap. 28.

Of the Church Society of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Diocese of Montreal; praying the House to refuse its assent to any measure for the secularization of the Clergy Reserves--that strict faith may be observed with the existing incumbents--and that the object and intent of setting apart the Reserves may be carefully carried into effect.

Of the Stanstead, Shefford, and Chambly Railroad Company; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of the Montreal and Bytown Railway Company; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of the President and Directors of the City Bank of Montreal; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize a certain amount of the profits of the said Bank to be added to the nominal amount of the reduced shares thereof, and also for an increase of the Capital Stock thereof.

Of the Bank of Montreal; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize the increase of their Capital Stock, and otherwise amending their Charter.

Of the Reverend Edouard Joseph Cr  vier, of the Parish of Ste. Marie de Monnoir; praying for aid in behalf of certain Schools established in the said Parish.

Of the Montreal and Vermont Junction Railway Company; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of Jacques Viger, Esquire, President, and the Reverend A.F. Truteau, Secretary, on behalf of the Association of the School of St. Jacques, Montreal, praying for aid in behalf of the said School.

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Of the Montreal Board of Trade; praying for certain amendments to the Laws regulating the Inspection of Pot and Pearl Ashes in the City of Montreal.

Of the Commissioners of the Port Hope Harbour; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of the Peterborough and Port Hope Railway Company; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation, and that the name of the said Company may be changed to that of "The Port Hope, Lindsay and Beaverton Railway Company."

Of the Reverend A. Th  berge and others, the Cur  , Church Wardens and Inhabitants of the Parish of Terrebonne; praying for aid in behalf of Masson College in the said Parish.

Of the Corporation of the Montreal General Hospital; praying for aid.

Of the Montreal Ladies' Benevolent Society; praying for aid.

Of Gabriel Valois, President, on behalf of the School Commissioners of Pointe Claire; praying for aid in behalf of an Academy established in the said Parish.

Of the Reverend Jean Baptiste St. Germain, of the Parish of St. Laurent, County of Montreal; praying for aid in behalf of the Industrial Academy established in the said Parish.

Of E. Duchesnay, Esquire, and others, School Commissioners, and others, of the Parish of Ste. Marie de la Beauce, County of Dorchester; praying [for] aid for the establishment of a College in the said Parish.

Of Nazaire Caron, President, and others, on behalf of the Association of School Teachers of the County of L'Islet; praying for aid to establish a Library in connection with the said Association.

Of the Municipal Council of the County of Simcoe; praying for certain amendments to the Assessment Law, the Municipal Corporations Act, the Common School Law, the License Law, and the Acts relating to Grammar Schools, Upper Canada College, and University College.

Of John Settle and others, of the Townships of Mulmer and Tosorontio; praying for the passing of an Act to define and settle the Survey made of the base line between the said Townships and the Townships of Mono and Adjula.

Of Andr   Trudel and others, of the Parish of Ste. Genevi  ve de Batiscan, County of Champlain; praying [for] aid for the construction of a Bridge over the River Batiscan.

Of Pierre Jean Mathon, School Teacher; representing that he has been a

School Teacher for more than thirty-five years, and that unfortunate circumstances have deprived him of this mode of subsistence, and praying relief in the premises.

Of Jean Langevin, of the City of Quebec, Esquire; representing that he was appointed Clerk to the late Council of the Municipal District of Quebec, and obtained judgement on legal recourse for remuneration for his services therein, but that in consequence of a subsequent General Act of Parliament, he was prevented from enforcing the said Judgment, and praying relief in the premises.

Of the Corporation of the College of Ste. Anne de la Pocatière; praying for aid.

Of Joseph Morrin, Esquire, President, and others, Shareholders in the Quebec Building Society; praying for a certain amendment to the Act incorporating the said Society.

The Honorable Mr. Hincks, from the Select Committee appointed to prepare and report Lists of Members to compose the eight Select Standing Committees ordered by this House, reported that they had prepared Lists of Members accordingly; and the same were read, as follow:--

1. On Privileges and Elections:--The Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond, the Honorable Mr. Papineau, the Honorable Mr. Viger, the Honorable Mr. Badgley, the Honorable Mr. Sherwood, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Smith of Frontenac, Mr. Polette, and Mr. Fergusson.

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2. On Expiring Laws:--The Honorable Mr. Chauveau, Mr. Clapham, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Mattice, Mr. McDougall, the Honorable Mr. Young, Mr. Marchildon, and Mr. Fournier.

3. On Standing Orders:--The Honorable Mr. LaTerrière, Mr. Hartman, Mr. Murney, Mr. Sicotte, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Willson, Mr. McDonald of Cornwall, Mr. McLachlin, and Mr. Laurin.

4. On Railroads, Canals, and Telegraph Lines:--Sir Allan N. MacNab, the Honorable Mr. Hincks, the Honorable Mr. Macdonald, the Honorable Mr. Robinson, Mr. Solicitor General Morrison, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Cauchon, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Taché, Mr. Egan, Mr. Smith of Durham, Mr. Christie of Wentworth, Mr. Galt, and Mr. Lemieux.

5. On Miscellaneous Private Bills:--The Honorable Mr. Badgley, the Honorable Mr. Merritt, Mr. Prince, Mr. Brown, Mr. Malloch, Mr. Turcotte, Mr. Lacoste, Mr. Tessier, and Mr. Wright of the West Riding of York.

6. On Printing:--Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Langton, Mr. Terrill, Mr. DeLong, Mr. Fortier, Mr. Dunoulin, Mr. Burnham, the Honorable Mr. Cameron, and Mr. Gouin.

7. On Contingencies:--Mr. Seymour, Mr. Gamble, Mr. Dubord, Mr. Paige, Mr. Sanborn, Mr. Jobin, Mr. Valois, Mr. Chapais, Mr. Wright of the East Riding of York, Mr. White, and Mr. Rose.

8. On the Public Accounts:--Mr. Christie of Gaspé, Mr. Street, Mr. Ridout, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Galt, Mr. Mongenais, Mr. Varin, Mr. Poulin, and Mr. Patrick.

MR. ROSE<sup>1</sup> moved for leave to introduce a Bill to compel road companies and others requiring right of way, to arbitrate within a certain time.<sup>2</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said he would take that opportunity of stating the course which the government intended to pursue, with reference to the various bills on the notice paper. It was the intention of the administration to oppose all measures which might be introduced during the present Session, except one or two which would be introduced by the government as being abso-



lutely necessary. A Reciprocity Bill would be introduced, and also a measure to give effect to the Franchise Bill of last Session, so that the people to whom the privilege had now been extended might enjoy the earliest possible opportunity of exercising a voice in the deliberations of the country. The government hoped to get both these measures passed through the House. It was also their intention to introduce a Bill for the Secularization of the Clergy Reserves, which he might state was already printed, and which he believed would prove perfectly satisfactory to the people of Upper Canada.<sup>3</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD (Kingston)--So satisfactory that you will not pass it this Session (Laughter).<sup>4</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS: After this Session there would be an immediate dissolution, and an appeal to the people, and thereafter another Session in the Autumn if possible.<sup>5</sup>

Several other members ... commented on the announcement of the intentions of the government<sup>6</sup>.

Mr. Rose's Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next, MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS stating that he did not intend to oppose the referring of bills for a second reading on a future day.<sup>7</sup>

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*Ordered, That Mr. Rose have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Railway Clauses Consolidation Act, as regards the settlement of claims for compensation for land or materials taken for Railways or other works, and in other respects.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.*

*On motion of Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Patrick,*

*Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House, a Copy of such Regulations as the Governor in Council may have made to give effect to an Act passed in the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, to regulate Ferries beyond the local limits of the Municipalities in Lower Canada, (16 Vic. cap. 212) and all such documents or information as His Excellency may possess in relation to the regulation of Ferrymen and persons conveying passengers for hire across the River St. Lawrence, between the City of Quebec and Point Levi, and parts adjacent thereto, and the licensing of Ferries there, with a List of the Licenses issued under the hand of the Governor of the Province for the time being, or of any person by him duly authorized to that effect, to keep a Ferry between the City of Quebec and Point Levi, or places adjacent thereto, on the opposite side of the River.*

*Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.*

MR. R. CHRISTIE<sup>8</sup> moved the first reading of a Bill to repeal the 4th section of the Act of last Session for making the Municipal Corporation of Quebec liable for damage done by mobs. The clause in question was the one which took the remedy away from persons who were injured by mobs arising out of any public entertainment for which money should be taken, except such



persons had first obtained the permission of the Mayor to give the entertainment in question. Mr. Christie characterized this clause as one disgraceful to the Legislature and the City of Quebec, and striking at the right of free discussion, since it put it into the power of the Mayor to refuse permission to any public speaker, and so expose him to the danger of violence, without any redress.<sup>9</sup> [It] exposed to lawless violence any man who dared to speak publicly on a theme obnoxious to the party in power.<sup>10</sup> If all had the right to speak publicly, all had the right to protection of the law, while they did so.<sup>11</sup>

MR. STUART and MR. TESSIER defended the bill of last session as one based upon the principles of similar laws in England and the United States, and as being by no means calculated to deprive any one of any liberty. In fact, they contended, the new law adds some security to a certain class of public entertainments; but deprived no one of the liberty he had before. The bill was then read a first time.<sup>12</sup>

(20)

*Ordered, That Mr. Christie of Gaspé have leave to bring in a Bill to repeal in part an Act passed in the sixteenth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to provide a remedy against the Corporation of the City of Quebec, in case of injury to property by any mob, or during riots in the said City."*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.*

On motion of MR. DUBORD,<sup>13</sup>

(21)

*Resolved, That a Select Committee, composed of Mr. Dubord, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Christie of Gaspé, Mr. Tessier, and the Honorable Mr. LaTerrière, be appointed to inquire into the expenses of Prosecution in Police cases in the City of Quebec, and into the efficiency generally of the Police of the said City, to report thereon with all convenient speed; with power to send for persons, papers, and records.*

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU stated that the Government had under consideration a general measure to provide for the expense of police prosecutions, and the efficiency of police regulations.<sup>14</sup>

(21)

*Ordered, That Mr. Tessier have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Act to encourage the Establishment of Building Societies in Lower Canada.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Tessier have leave to bring in a Bill to remove certain doubts as to the mode of making Searches in the Registry Offices in Lower Canada.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.*

*The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate upon the Amendment which was, upon Friday last, proposed to be made to the*

Question, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his gracious Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:

To express to His Excellency the regret we feel that during the Recess the Province has sustained serious loss by fire, in the destruction of the Houses of Parliament, and of the Building which was subsequently secured for the temporary occupation of the Legislature, and our satisfaction that the best arrangements practicable under the circumstances have been adopted for our accommodation:

To assure His Excellency that this House heartily responds to the manifestations of Loyalty to Her Majesty The Queen, Our Most Gracious Sovereign, and of sympathy with the Parent State, which have been so general throughout the Province, at this conjuncture, when Her Majesty, having failed in Her anxious and protracted endeavours to preserve for Her People the blessings of peace, has felt Herself called upon by regard for an Ally, the integrity and independence of whose Empire has been recognized as essential to the peace of Europe, by the sympathies of Her People with right against wrong, and by a desire to avert from Her Dominions most injurious consequences, to take up arms in conjunction with the Emperor of the French for the defence of the Sultan; and that we believe the cordial co-operation of England and France in this war is well calculated to call forth the sympathies of the Inhabitants of this Country, peopled mainly by the descendants of those two powerful Empires:

That this House learns with satisfaction that His Excellency having, during his recent visit to England, been honored by the Queen's command to endeavour to effect the settlement of various important questions bearing upon the interests of the British North American Provinces which had been long pending between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, proceeded to Washington, where, after frank discussion with the Authorities of the United States, he has been enabled to conclude a Treaty, which now awaits ratification, upon terms which, it is His Excellency's firm conviction, will prove in the highest degree advantageous to the Colonies generally, as well as to the United States; and that this House will give proper attention to a measure which may be introduced to give effect to that Treaty:

That this House will also consider attentively the Despatch which His Excellency has received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, when communicated, with reference to the Addresses to the Queen from the two Houses

(22)

of the Legislature, on the subject of the Constitution of the Legislative Council, transmitted by His Excellency at the close of the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, to be laid at the foot of the Throne:

That this House will give its best consideration to any measure which may be submitted for bringing into early operation the Act of last Session which extends the Elective Franchise, in order that a Constitutional expression of opinion may be obtained as speedily as possible under the system of representation recently established, on the various important questions on which legislation is required:

That this House will give due attention to the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the present year, when laid before them; and that His Excellency may rely on our willingness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Government:

That this House learns with satisfaction that the prosperous condition of the Revenue may allow the making of such reductions in the Tariff as may

*be compatible with security to the public creditor and efficiency in the Public Service:*

*That this House has learned with pleasure that His Excellency, during his sojourn in England, received from all quarters proofs of increasing interest in Canadian affairs, and is fully persuaded that His Excellency's acquaintance with the Province, derived from long residence within it, has enabled him to render great service in spreading more widely a knowledge of its resources and of the feelings of the inhabitants:*

*That they concur with His Excellency in the belief that, although a state of warfare has a necessary tendency to restrict operations involving large expenditures of capital, the credit of Canada has attained a position in English opinion which it never before achieved; and that in order to retain it, this House will endeavour to act with prudence in all undertakings, and to maintain the high character for fidelity to pecuniary engagements which the Province has at all times borne;*

*And which Amendment was, That after the word "Session" at the end of the first paragraph, the words "To express to His Excellency the regret we feel that Parliament had not been convened at an earlier period, and in accordance with an Address of this House to His Excellency on that subject, during its last Session, designating the beginning of the month of February as the most convenient time for the general interests of the Country" be inserted;*

*And the Question on the Amendment being again proposed:--The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.<sup>15</sup>*

MR. RIDOUT ... proceeded with the debate on the Address. He did not find much fault with the Resolutions moved by Mr. Patrick, but thought the faults of the Speech, if there were faults, were those of omission. There were in it two points of great importance. The first related to Reciprocity; the other to the Reduction of Duties. In his section of the country, there was very great and general satisfaction with the first of these measures, and he sincerely congratulated the Government on the other. He thought the reduction last Session ought to have gone much farther, but if it came later, it was still satisfactory. This circumstance was closely connected with the credit of the country, and the mention of it made him think of the issue as he understood of about 1½ millions of debentures, not sanctioned by Parliament.<sup>16</sup> Referring to the last paragraph of the speech, Mr. Ridout said he was not at all satisfied with the Inspector General's statement on Friday as to the issue of debentures. If he understood the case ..., since last session there had been an issue of debentures by the government to the extent of a million and a half of money, not authorized by ... Parliament.<sup>17</sup> It was said that of this sum only £200,000 had been paid in cash to the Company; but this did not affect the principle.<sup>18</sup> He could imagine no fact more calculated to bring their debentures into discredit in England than such an issue of them without the sanction of Parliament. If such a course was to be persisted in by the government, the House might as well not assemble at all.<sup>19</sup> His colleague had proposed an amendment, referring to the fact that the House had not been called together in February, and he fully approved of that expression of opinion. It had been exceedingly inconvenient to many members to have their arrangements disturbed, and all he could say was, that in future, if any bill were introduced for fixing the time of meeting of Parliament, he would vote for it whether it interfered with the prerogative or not. If it did, the responsibility must fall on the Government which had failed to carry out its solemn pledges. Turning to the question of the postponement of legislation, he stated that he could not believe in the incom-



petency of the present House to legislate upon the Reserves and the Tenure. At the last election in C.W., at any rate, this was the test question, the Government having promised that it should be settled in the next Session, and he was the more astonished that it should be postponed, when he saw that the House was asked to legislate on what he thought the more important subject of reciprocal trade.<sup>20</sup> When last elected, he fully understood that the Reserves question would be finally disposed of by the present Parliament.<sup>21</sup> He then referred to the subject of the public buildings at Toronto, complaining of the want of faith shown by the Government in declining to proceed with them.<sup>22</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS here interrupted the hon. member by saying that the reason for the delay, was the high price of building, which had made the previous estimate insufficient<sup>23</sup>. Depuis que la Législature avait voté les fonds jugés nécessaires pour cet objet, le prix des matériaux et de la main-d'oeuvre avait doublé, en sorte que le gouvernement n'avait pas voulu prendre sur lui de donner les contrats dans des circonstances aussi défavorables avant d'avoir consulté la Chambre.

Le gouvernement avait l'intention de demander une appropriation nouvelle pour cet objet,<sup>24</sup> immediately at the close of the debate on the address<sup>25</sup>, lorsque le budget serait soumis à la Chambre, et les travaux seraient poursuivis sans délai.<sup>26</sup>

MR. RIDOUT was then satisfied on that head; he continued, however, to remark on the postponement of legislation, which he thought unnecessary, especially considering that the Seigniorial tenure bill was last session proceeded with, after the representation bill had passed, and that the Legislative Council bill had also been introduced in that stage of the session.<sup>27</sup>

MR. STEVENSON also attacked the government in reference to the delay in calling the House together<sup>28</sup>. After some remarks which were inaudible in the gallery, he spoke of the alleged issue of debentures to the Grand Trunk company. These, the Inspector General had stated, had been issued precisely on the same principle as those issued to the Portland Railroad. He could not understand this. The debentures for the Portland Road were issued after one half of the Road were [sic] completed, but the new law made it imperative to expend £100,000 on the road before any debentures were issued, and no portion of the road had yet been made. The truth was that the Government had shown its conviction that it could set Parliament at defiance and that it was quite unnecessary to consult the representatives of the people for anything whatever.<sup>29</sup>

The bell having been rung for a division,<sup>30</sup>

MR. BROWN said there had been so many allusions made to what took place on his motion of last session that he considered it necessary to make a single remark in regard to it before a division took place. The Hon. Attorney General (Mr. Drummond) had stated<sup>31</sup>, the previous night<sup>32</sup>, that no promise had been given by government that the house would meet early in February. In making this statement Mr. Drummond was quite mistaken, for the most distinct pledges to that effect were given by the Hon. Inspector General and the then Hon. Secretary of the Province.<sup>33</sup> To prove this he read several extracts from the speeches of those gentlemen upon his bill for fixing the time of meeting Parliament.<sup>34</sup> Mr. Hincks ... stated most explicitly that the wishes of the house, if expressed in an address, would be attended to by the government, and that the whole object desired to be

obtained by bill would be gained by address,--trusting in those pledges he (Mr. Brown) withdrew his bill and moved an address, which was passed with the full consent and approbation of the government.<sup>35</sup> He then referred to dates to prove that the cause alleged by Mr. Hincks, for postponement, viz the fire, could not have been the real cause for not sooner assembling the House, since that did not take place till February, whereas to keep faith the ministry ought to have issued the proclamation in December.<sup>36</sup> The member for Essex had asked what difference did the delay of a few months in the assembling of Parliament make to the country. The hon. gentleman had overlooked one point of view in which the delay would appear to be a matter of very serious damage to the country. With an overflowing treasury and large sums of money in the bank to be used by government, it was a very serious matter to be going on for another year filling their coffers yet more full, and giving the government a still greater amount of corruption money. It was not at all desirable that several hundred thousand pounds more than was necessary should be drawn from the industry of the country. That of itself was a sufficient reason why hon. gentlemen should have remembered their pledges: He had merely risen to make this explanation, and would reserve the discussion of the merits of the broader questions at issue for a future stage in the debate.<sup>37</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said the hon. gentleman was perfectly correct in what he had stated as to the assurances given by the government when the bill fixing the time for the meeting of Parliament was under discussion. But it was at the same time distinctly stated all through that the government could not consent to the passage of the bill on the ground of its being an interference with the prerogative of the crown, and that though February might be the best time for meeting, yet circumstances might arise which might render it inconvenient to assemble parliament then.<sup>38</sup> Government had refused to fix the date for the meeting of Parliament in any absolute manner. Nor had he alleged the fire as the first cause of postponing the meeting of Parliament; but the absence of the Governor, and the uncertainty of his being here in time.<sup>39</sup>

MR. SICOTTE, in French, opposed the amendment.<sup>40</sup> [He] spoke shortly, as we understood, in the sense that the pledge given last session was not an absolute one; but one that expressly reserved the prerogative in case circumstances occurred to make the meeting in February undesirable. The hon. member was very imperfectly heard.<sup>41</sup>

MR. BADGLEY animadverted strongly on the conduct of the government in attempting to throw off their own shoulders, and lay on those of their chief Executive Officer of the Province, the blame of not having assembled parliament at the time promised. The course they were pursuing in this respect was quite inconsistent with the constitution of the country.<sup>42</sup> If the meeting of Parliament ... was to be postponed merely for the convenience of the Governor General, there was no responsible government at all. He spoke with every respect for the Governor General, but the constitution provided another officer to act in his absence, and he held that the Administration was bound to study not the convenience, but the wants of the country.<sup>43</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND remarked that it was not the absence of the Governor General, but the desire for his presence which had caused the postponement.<sup>44</sup>

MR. BADGLEY conceived that only to be a slight variation of the statement

of the Inspector General.<sup>45</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS.--The postponement was not put by him solely on the absence of the Governor General, but also on the delay of the Home Government in deciding with reference to the Legislative Council bill. He had cast no blame on the Governor General.<sup>46</sup>

MR. BADGLEY.--If the settlement of that question in England was a *sine qua non*, how was it that Parliament was now assembled and called on to legislate though no Legislative Council bill was to be submitted.<sup>47</sup>

(22)

*And the Question being put; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Badgley, Brown, Burnham, Cauchon, Clapham, Crawford, Dixon, Gamble, Jobin, Langton, LaTerrière, Macdonald of KINGSTON, Sir A.N. MacNab, Malloch, Marchildon, Murney, Polette, Ridout, Robinson, Sanborn, Seymour, Shaw, Sherwood, Stevenson, Street, Stuart, Valois, Willson, and Wright of West Riding of YORK.--(29.)*

(22-23)

NAYS.

*Messieurs Cameron, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, DeLong, Attorney General Drummond, Dumoulin, Egan, Fergusson, Fortier, Fournier, Galt, Gouin, Hartman, Hincks, Lacoste, Laurin, LeBlanc, Lemieux, McDonald of CORNWALL, Mackenzie, Mattice, Mongenais, Morin, Morrison, Paige, Papineau, Patrick, Poulin, Prince, Rolph, Rose, Sicotte, Smith of DURHAM, Tessier, Turcotte, Varin, Wright of East Riding of YORK, and Young.--(40.)*

*So it passed in the Negative.*

(23)

*And the Main Question being again proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his gracious Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:*

*To express to His Excellency the regret we feel that during the Recess the Province has sustained serious loss by fire, in the destruction of the Houses of Parliament, and of the Building which was subsequently secured for the temporary occupation of the Legislature, and our satisfaction that the best arrangements practicable under the circumstances have been adopted for our accommodation:*

*To assure His Excellency that this House heartily responds to the manifestations of loyalty to Her Majesty The Queen, Our Most Gracious Sovereign, and of sympathy with the Parent State, which have been so general throughout the Province, at this conjuncture, when Her Majesty, having failed in Her anxious and protracted endeavours to preserve for Her People the blessings of peace, has felt Herself called upon by regard for an Ally. the integrity and independence of whose Empire has been recognized as essential to the peace of Europe, by the sympathies of Her People with right against wrong, and by a desire to avert from Her Dominions most injurious consequences, to take up arms in conjunction with the Emperor of the French for the defence of the Sultan; and that we believe the cordial co-operation of England and France in this war is well calculated to call forth the sympathies of the Inhabitants of this Country, peopled mainly by the descendants of those two powerful Empires:*



That this House learns with satisfaction that His Excellency having, during his recent visit to England, been honored by the Queen's command to endeavour to effect the settlement of various important questions bearing upon the interests of the British North American Provinces which had been long pending between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, proceeded to Washington, where, after frank discussion with the Authorities of the United States, he has been enabled to conclude a Treaty, which now awaits ratification, upon terms which, it is His Excellency's firm conviction, will prove in the highest degree advantageous to the Colonies generally, as well as to the United States; and that this House will give proper attention to a measure which may be introduced to give effect to that Treaty:

That this House will also consider attentively the Despatch which His Excellency has received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, when communicated, with reference to the Addresses to the Queen from the two Houses of the Legislature, on the subject of the Constitution of the Legislative Council, transmitted by His Excellency at the close of the last Session in the Provincial Parliament, to be laid at the foot of the Throne:

That this House will give its best consideration to any measure which may be submitted for bringing into early operation the Act of last Session which extends the Elective Franchise, in order that a Constitutional expression of opinion may be obtained as speedily as possible under the system of representation recently established, on the various important questions on which legislation is required:

That this House will give due attention to the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the present year, when laid before them; and that His Excellency may rely on our willingness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Government:

That this House learns with satisfaction that the prosperous condition of the Revenue may allow the making of such reductions in the Tariff as may be compatible with security to the public creditor and efficiency in the Public Service:

(24)

That this House has learned with pleasure that His Excellency, during His sojourn in England, received from all quarters proofs of increasing interest in Canadian affairs, and is fully persuaded that His Excellency's acquaintance with the Province, derived from long residence within it, has enabled him to render great service in spreading more widely a knowledge of its resources and of the feelings of the inhabitants:

That they concur with His Excellency in the belief that, although a state of warfare has a necessary tendency to restrict operations involving large expenditures of capital, the credit of Canada has attained a position in English opinion which it never before achieved: and in order to retain it, this House will endeavour to act with prudence in all undertakings, and to maintain the high character for fidelity to pecuniary engagements which the Province has at all times borne;

Ordered, That the Question be put upon each paragraph of the said Motion.

And the first, second and third paragraphs being again read, were agreed to.

The fourth paragraph being again read, as followeth:--That this House learns with satisfaction that His Excellency having, during his recent visit to England, been honored by the Queen's command to endeavour to effect the settlement of various important questions bearing upon the interests of the British North American Provinces which had been long pending between the

*Governments of Great Britain and the United States, proceeded to Washington, where, after frank discussion with the Authorities of the United States, he has been enabled to conclude a Treaty, which now awaits ratification, upon terms which, it is His Excellency's firm conviction, will prove in the highest degree advantageous to the Colonies generally, as well as to the United States: and that this House will give proper attention to a measure which may be introduced to give effect to that Treaty.*

*Mr. Cauchon moved in amendment thereto, seconded by the Honorable Mr. LaTerrière, That after the word "Treaty" at the end thereof, the words, That "this House sees with regret that His Excellency's Government do not intend to submit to the Legislature, during the present Session, a Bill for the immediate settlement of the Seigniorial Question" be inserted:*

MR. CAUCHON ... accompagna [son amendement] d'un assez long discours en anglais.<sup>48</sup> He said that nothing had surprised him more, after the assertions of the Government press that the questions which had agitated the country for fifty years in Lower and twenty-five years in Upper Canada were not to be legislated upon on account of the incompetency of the present House, than to hear the Inspector General declare, on his own account, that he did not think the House incompetent.<sup>49</sup> The abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure, he said, was a great question of Lower Canada, and the Government were greatly to blame for not undertaking the immediate settlement of it. There could be no doubt of what was the state of the public opinion on the subject, and there was nothing he conceived more to be deprecated than keeping the country worried and agitated about it for, perhaps, years to come. Had the Government used as many efforts with the Legislative Council in connection with the Seigniorial Bill, as they had done in reference to the Representation Bill, the question now, would have been satisfactorily settled.<sup>50</sup> In 1851, it was found so necessary to introduce a Bill to reform the Tenure, that the mover of that measure was willing to let the Government fall if they would not assent to it. He (Mr. Cauchon), though then supporting the Government, had voted against them in favor of that Bill, in deference to the opinions of the great majority of his countrymen, and last year, though opposed to the Government, he had in like manner voted for the Government Bill. If, then, their friends had a right to complain of being deceived, he had a right, as an opponent, to make a similar complaint. For his own part he did not believe the Administration meant to settle the question, but that they wished to use it, as the Inspector General, evidently, from his own statement, wished to do with the Reserves question in Upper Canada--keep it open as an obstacle in the way of the Conservatives. That was plain from his saying that he knew it would be convenient for those gentlemen to have it settled. The Ministry now talked about dissolving the House after they had carried two or three measures; but it occurred to him to ask how it was,--if they could dissolve the House now without the Legislative Council being re-organized, they were unable to do the same thing before. It was very possible that after the next election nothing would be done in England respecting that matter--were they still to wait? It was evident that the necessity for the present policy of postponement and dissolution had not been thought of last Session, for the Franchise Bill was passed in such a way as not to come into operation till 1855; and the Representation Bill was passed with a promise to some of the members favorable to the Government, that the House should not be immediately dissolved. There must be, then, some powerful motive for the change in policy. What was that motive? He would not speak of the declarations of the Postmaster General, for he had denied the correctness of the

statements imputed to him in a long speech, which, throughout, seemed to have one object--to prove that the Governor General would not allow the Clergy Reserves to be legislated on. He said he would not allude to that speech since the hon. gentleman alleged that his "no," of a mile and a half long, had been misunderstood for a "yes." But there was a letter by the Inspector General, where the same thing was stated, which the Post-master General said he did not state. In that letter, the Insp. General alleged that no Gov. General would have consented to legislating on these subjects in the present parliament. He confessed he did not understand how this accorded with the declaration of the Inspector General<sup>51</sup>, that he did not deny the competency of the House. The Governor General might have said he would dissolve the house; but if ministers thought the house not incompetent they ought to have given proof of their sincerity and not to have remained in power only to draw their salaries. He had nothing to do with the absence of the Governor General. If the Government of Canada were a constitutional one, the ministers were the responsible persons and an administrator of the government was appointed to fulfil the duties of government during the absence of the Governor General. No doubt the experience of the Governor General was [not] of no value; but it was not indispensable to legislation, otherwise when we had a new Governor we should have to wait until he acquired experience before Parliament proceeded to transact any business. The weakness of the reasons given for the conduct of men so able as the ministry were--at least some of them--proved the weakness of their cause. But they relied upon the majority being still ready to support them, as obedient tools, such as they had been before. The argument of their friends, if not of themselves, was always the same. If we are wrong even, where are you to get a government, should you turn us out. For his part he did not believe the whole talent of the country was confined to two or three individuals, and the Inspector General himself repudiated such an idea. It was not, however, because men possessed talents that they ought to be supported as a ministry; but because they used their talent for the benefit of the country. There were among the ministry some men who he believed were quite ready to do this, and who wanted only the energy to restrain their colleagues from doing wrong. Such men, however, were not favorites with the supporters of the ministry, many of whom would not cry if they were out of it. Alluding to the ministerial explanations of the Inspector General on a preceding evening he said that he could not understand what that gentleman meant by saying that the changes in question were not political. If the entire change in policy was not a political change, he did not understand the meaning of words.<sup>52</sup>

(24)

*And a Debate arising thereupon:*

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND and MR. SICOTTE rose<sup>53</sup>.

MR. SICOTTE began to address the House, complaining that no Seignioral Tenure Bill had been introduced,<sup>54</sup> but ... gave way.<sup>55</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND stated that so soon as the Address was disposed of, it was the intention of the Government to give notice of a Seignioral Bill<sup>56</sup>. Ministers intended again to submit the bill of last session with some modifications, especially one suggested by the Montreal convention, and another to lessen the trouble of the commissioners, who were to be appointed under it. It was not intended to carry this bill during the present



session, but in the meantime they proposed to bring in a short bill to compel an aveu et dénombrement.<sup>57</sup> The next Parliament he believed would be in a position to take up the bill under more advantageous circumstances than was the case last session.<sup>58</sup> A Municipal Bill would also be laid before the House for consideration, very nearly in the shape of the bill of last session<sup>59</sup>. The part which related to the taxation of wild lands will, however, be struck out<sup>60</sup>. It would moreover contain provisions for placing on the same footing as those of Upper Canada, the debentures of the Lower Canadian municipalities.<sup>61</sup> It is also the intention of the Government to assimilate the system of Judicature in Lower Canada to that existing in the Upper Province.<sup>62</sup> It was ... the intention of the government to change entirely the judiciary system, establishing every where resident judges, having original jurisdiction in all causes whatever; and also officers who should preside at the Quarter Sessions, and should have placed in their hands much of the business which was now in the hands of an unlettered magistracy.<sup>63</sup>

The discussion of the amendment was continued in French by MR. SICOTTE, MR. MARCHILDON, MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN, MR. LEBOUTILLIER, MR. LEMIEUX, and MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU.<sup>64</sup>

MR. SICOTTE reminded the hon. gentleman that this same promise of municipal reform had been given in the preceding session, and yet that nothing had been done, though it was well known that the present law could not be worked. If the Government were not prepared to go on with their municipal bill, he hoped at least they would allow a small bill to be passed to enable the roads to be properly regulated. As to all those promises, he doubted the sincerity of the ministry, and believed they had no other object in talking of them than to set up an eternal existence on the pretence of carrying them. There could be no opinion more unanimous than that of the people of this country on the Seigniorial Tenure, and yet, after all the talking, the seigniors every day made themselves more rich and powerful. All round the County of Shefford, which the Attorney General represented, there was a belt of seigniories where all the wood and all the water powers had been monopolised by the Seigniors. It was a strange thing to see a ministry founding its popularity on a sincerity which the whole country was fatigued with hearing of. The Attorney General had obtained a position by a promise to destroy the tenure, and yet he had gone on doing nothing till the censitaires had become thoroughly discouraged by the repeated delays,--by promise[s] vainly repeated every four years! He went on to contend, that had the ministry been sincere they would have pushed the bill of last session through the Legislative Council, even if they had had to make additional councillors, and if there were now any obstacle to the passage of the bill, that obstacle was one of the ministry's own creating and one that ought to have been foreseen and guarded against.<sup>65</sup> Si un particulier est obligé de remplir ses engagements, à plus forte raison, le gouvernement, qui doit donner l'exemple de la justice et de l'obéissance aux lois, doit-il remplir les siens. On nous dit maintenant que la solution de cette question n'a été différée que pour prendre les moyens de la régler plus tard d'une manière plus efficace. Toutes les raisons que le ministère donne pour justifier sa position ne sont que des prétextes pour éviter de se rencontrer face à face avec une difficulté dont on redoute l'issue. Que dit en effet le ministère? Il fallait attendre la réponse du gouvernement impérial aux requêtes que cette Chambre lui a adressées relativement à la constitution du Conseil Législatif et au rappel de certaines lois qui paralysent l'action de la législature coloniale. Mais on devait savoir cela dans la dernière session quand l'As-

semblée Législative a passé le bill de M. Drummond.

Attendre, pour introduire une mesure d'abolition, que le Conseil Législatif soit électif, c'est dire que l'on veut attendre assez longtemps pour que les seigneurs consolident leurs pouvoirs et leurs usurpations, ou que le peuple, dégoûté de tant de lenteurs, tombe dans l'abattement du désespoir.

Où en est cette question du Conseil Législatif? Le gouverneur nous dit, dans son discours, qu'il nous communiquera une dépêche à ce sujet; personne ne connaît encore les termes de cette dépêche; mais ce qu'il y a de certain, c'est qu'il faut que le parlement impérial passe une loi pour autoriser cette Chambre à régler ce point difficile. Ce qu'il y a de certain, c'est que cette loi ne sera pas passée avant l'année prochaine, et que nous ne pourrions en prendre connaissance que durant la session de 1855. Serons-nous donc alors plus avancés qu'aujourd'hui, et faudra-t-il encore attendre davantage pour législater sur les grandes questions qui tiennent l'esprit public dans une agitation dangereuse? Le ministère ne peut pas promettre avec sincérité d'entreprendre la solution de la question seigneuriale dans la prochaine session, si les raisons qu'il donne aujourd'hui pour temporiser ont quelque valeur.

Les mêmes objections se présenteront encore, car, supposé que l'Angleterre nous permette de reconstituer le Conseil, croit-on cette difficulté si légère qu'on puisse en disposer dans l'espace de quelques jours? Le ministère fera encore des promesses comme il en fait aujourd'hui, comme il en a fait l'année dernière; il trouvera peut être une majorité complaisante qui sanctionnera aveuglément son inaction, et nous verrons les abus se multiplier, le peuple se dégrader et s'appauvrir sous le joug seigneurial, mais les ministres seront ministres--ils auront su se cramponner au pouvoir et ils en partageront entre eux les honneurs et les émoluments.

Il croyait donc l'administration coupable aux yeux du pays qu'elle est sensée représenter, et il ne pouvait avoir confiance en des hommes qui avaient oublié si tôt le sentiment de leur devoir et la solennité de leurs engagements. En conséquence, il voterait pour les amendements sous considération, comme exprimant sa propre pensée et les vœux bien connus de ses constituants.<sup>66</sup> Was it not most extraordinary that a subject, upon which legislation was promised in the speech from the throne of 1852 should now in 1854 be still unsettled, and yet no mention whatever of it occurs in the speech at the opening of the session? He repeated that if the representation bill were really an obstacle to the Seigneurial tenure bill, the ministry knowing the importance of the latter, must either have been wanting in honesty or capacity when they created that obstacle.<sup>67</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN denied that the Ministry were wanting either in energy or good will, and contended that last session, there were before the Canadian Legislature more subjects, of first rate importance than before any legislature of the world. Yet the Ministry, he alleged, had made great progress with most of the measures connected with these subjects. He especially enumerated the representation bill, and the Legislative Council reform. As to the increase of the numbers of the Legislative Council which Mr. Sicotte spoke of, he thought it ought not to be made except for reasons of high political necessity. He concluded by an expression of opinion that the Ministry was still worthy of the confidence of the people.<sup>68</sup>

DR. LATERRIERE thought the question for the House was, whether members were really called together, as the words of the summons ran, for the transaction of business, or whether they were merely to march, countermarch and go home about their business. For his own part, he could see no greater as-

surance of performance in the present promises of the ministry than in those which had gone before and been broken. The amendment did honour to the independence of the member for Montmorenci, but it was a reproach, as stinging as it was well merited [sic], to the ministry, who were making use for their own purposes of the Seignior agitation. For his own part he desired that question settled, for its constant agitation daily demoralized the country more and more. He had opposed the unjust bill of last session it was true; but an equitable, final arrangement he fervently desired. This was, by the confession of the ministry themselves, of first rate necessity, for it was upon this ground that the present Attorney General had supplanted Mr. Lafontaine. As to the difficulties that were alleged as arising out of the obstinacy of the present Legislative Council, let the House of Assembly do its duty, and if they persisted let the responsibility of another refusal be thrown upon them. After condemning, as we understood, the desertion of the cause of the reform of the tenure by the hon. members for Dorchester and Lotbinière, and especially by Mr. Chabot, who, before his last accession to the ministry, had been for turning the Government out at once if they did not settle it, Mr. Laterrière contended that the style of the address was evidently very inferior to that of Lord Elgin in general. As to the fires, all that the Commissioners could learn was that the buildings had been all right one day and burned down the next. After a cursory remark or two as to the war in Europe, he went on to say that he anticipated no good from the reciprocity treaty.<sup>69</sup>

Il a été informé par M. Gauvreau, qui arrive du Détroit de Belille, où le gouvernement l'avait chargé d'aller placer des phares, que les Américains, par anticipation du Traité, sont déjà rendus en grand nombre dans le Golfe et y exercent des déprédations de toutes sortes.

Ils s'emparent les meilleurs places de pêche, chassent les habitants de chez eux, les maltraitent de toute manière et ne tendent à rien moins qu'à monopoliser les pêcheries. Il n'y a aucune force pour protéger les sujets anglais; le Capt. Fortin avec sa chaloupe et son équipage formidable de six hommes, a cherché un refuge aux Iles de la Magdeleine, en sorte que voici la principale ressource, et en quelques endroits, la seule ressource des habitant[s] des provinces d'En Bas à la merci de nos voisins.

Il croit que l'Angleterre ne s'est tant hâtée de conclure ce traité de réciprocité que pour acheter la neutralité des Etats-Unis, dans les circonstances difficiles où elle se trouve engagée; mais il ne fallait pas accomplir à nos dépens un objet si désirable, et il espérait que la Législature de cette province ne ratifierait ce traité qu'à condition que nos droits seraient respectés et efficacement protégés.<sup>70</sup> He concluded by some remarks depreciatory of the scheme for a Railway from Quebec to Lake St. John. He had, he said, obtained in 1852, a survey of that section of country, and it was found to be utterly unfit for road making or settlement; but it appeared to answer the purpose of some persons, such as the Provincial Secretary (Mr. Chauveau) to put himself at the head of the enterprise.<sup>71</sup>

MR. LEMIEUX began by showing that Dr. Latterrière[re], who now wanted the Seigniorial measure settled had himself moved its postponement in 1852.<sup>72</sup>

DR. LATERRIERE made some remarks but in so low a tone of voice, they did not reach the reporters' gallery, he was understood to condemn the government for their policy in relation to the Seigniorial Tenure.<sup>73</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUEAU followed, generally defending the policy pursued by the administration.<sup>74</sup>



MR. PRES. EX. COUN. ROLPH, who was very imperfectly heard in the Reporters' Gallery, replied to arguments which had been advanced by Mr. Cauchon, and to various extracts from the Globe, which he read to the effect that the present Parliament had an unquestionable right to settle the Reserves and Seigniorial questions. The hon. gentleman admitted that the present Parliament had the right to do so, but he contended that it would be most improper to exercise that right. The Imperial Parliament, in that unhappy revolutionary contest, which separated so many of the American colonies from the mother country, had a perfect right to legislate for the colonies, but it acted most unwisely and improperly, as the result showed, in exercising that right. It was a strange sort of right which in the exercise of it became a decided wrong, and in the present case, he considered that an undoubted wrong would be inflicted on the class now, for the first time admitted within the pale of the franchise, if they were not permitted a voice in the decision of those long agitated questions.<sup>75</sup> He defended [the government Clergy Reserves policy] on the ground that the passing of the new representation act, rendered the present Parliament incompetent to legislate on a measure so important, and that to attempt to do so would be improper not to say unconstitutional while it would not effect the settlement of the question.<sup>76</sup> He said the Government proposed to settle the Reserves Question in the only constitutional way; and it did not become those who by urging on the Representation and Franchise Bills had placed the Government in its present position to complain.<sup>77</sup> Dr. Rolph then compared the course desired by the opposition to that taken in 1640, by the Long Parliament which wished to prolong its own existence indefinitely. He did not approve of long Parliaments, but in the words of the Triennial Parliament Act of William and Mary, he considered that it ... was for the advantage of all parties concerned, that Members of Parliament should meet their constituents pretty frequently. Dr. Rolph next proceeded to quote passages from the Globe and the Examiner, with the view of showing that last year those who were now opponents of the Government policy had themselves advocated an immediate dissolution of Parliament, and an appeal to the country on the question of the Reserves. Having quoted a sentence from the Globe, bearing on the subject of making another appeal to the country on the subject of the Reserves, and stating that the friends of religious liberty had largely increased in number since the last election, the hon. gentleman was proceeding to build up a charge of inconsistency on this statement, when he was interrupted by--<sup>78</sup>

MR. BROWN, who requested him to read the next sentence.<sup>79</sup>

MR. PRES. EX. COUN. ROLPH professed his willingness to do so, but conveniently allowed his book of extracts to close, and some minutes were lost in again hunting up the place.<sup>80</sup>

MR. BROWN then took the book into his own hands, and remarked, that if reading of newspapers in the house was orderly at all, Ministers of the Crown might be expected to read honestly.<sup>81</sup> He accused Dr. Rolph of garbling both the Globe and the Examiner.<sup>82</sup> He had been surprised, too, at the manner in which Dr. Rolph had introduced the name of Mr. Lesslie, a gentleman who had<sup>83</sup>, ably and consistently for many years<sup>84</sup>, stuck by him through thick and thin. (Cries of order!) Mr. Brown then read the context of the article from the Globe, of which Dr. Rolph had read a single sentence, showing that the sentence taken by itself, conveyed an impression of the writer's meaning quite contrary to the fact, the argument being, that although the friends of reli-

gious liberty had gained considerably in numbers since the last election, yet, if an appeal to the country were now made on the question of the Reserves, it would be so bound up with the infamous jobs of a corrupt Government, that the friends of ... religious liberty might suffer an apparent defeat. Dr. Rolph had quoted from the article to show that it was urged that the appeal should be made to the people because the friends of religious liberty had increased, but the context showed that the very opposite was the fact.<sup>85</sup>

MR. PRES. EX. COUN. ROLPH would not admit that he had quoted disingenuously, but proceeded to make a similar charge against the hon. member for Kingston (Mr. Macdonald) who, he said, had made a long and elaborate speech last Session in favour of an immediate dissolution, and now attacked the government for taking the precise course which he had then advocated.<sup>86</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD, of Kingston, spoke in review of the speech of Dr. Rolph. He said it was one which might consistently have been made on his (Mr. Macdonald's) side of the House.<sup>87</sup> [He] then explained the course he had taken last Session when the Bills for increasing the Representation and extending the Elective Franchise were before the House. When those Bills were introduced he had opposed them on the ground that the present Parliament fairly represented the people, and that at the commencement of its existence it ought not to pass measures which seemed to involve the admission that it did not fairly represent the people. The government, however, strenuously maintained that they involved no such admission, and that the house during the whole period of its existence retained the right to legislate upon any and every subject.<sup>88</sup> First, the House was told they saw nothing in it that affected the present Parliament; now, one of their members tells us tonight, that it renders the new Parliament incompetent. If this is true, how have they acted? In what is it that the essence of an Act of Parliament consists? Not in the mere formal giving to it of the Royal Assent, but in that which is inherent in the principle of the Act itself.<sup>89</sup> So soon as the Representation and Franchise Bills were read a second time, the solemn declaration was thereby made, which was quite as obligatory on the conscience of the House, as if the Bills had then received the Royal Assent, that a large number of individuals were excluded from the right of voting who ought to be admitted<sup>90</sup>, but he did not hold that it rendered the new Parliament incompetent. If, however, it does, and the view of the hon. member (Dr. Rolph) is to be taken, why have the Government since the Royal Assent was given to the Bill, continued to pass measures of the most vital importance to the country? After the Royal Assent was given to the Bill last Session, the Attorney-General East, with all the energy of which he is capable, night after night, for a fortnight, continued to press the Seigniorial Tenure Bill, and, finally, got it passed through the House. Did not that Bill involve the most serious interests? Here the hon. member went over a list of Bills that the Government forced upon the House after the Royal Assent had been given to the Representation Bill saying that among them were some of the most vital importance. Dwelling on the Franchise Bill, he stated that,<sup>91</sup> he (Mr. Macdonald) took up last Session a strong position against the passing of the ... Bill, on the ground that it was premature to ask members of the House at once to divest themselves of all their rights and privileges, but the Hon. Inspector General stated over and over again that the passage of the Bill involved no such necessity. And the very last act of the government last Session was advising His Excellency to give the Royal Assent to that Bill, the last clause of which provided that there should be no alteration in the

Franchise till the 1st of January 1855.<sup>92</sup> Was not that clause inserted with design? Did the Government intend that there should be no Election before that period, and that this country was to have an incompetent Parliament from June, 1853, to June, 1855? and they themselves be allowed to do as they pleased?<sup>93</sup> Could they have meant, then, on the supposition that the present Parliament had declared itself incompetent, that there was to be no real legislation to meet the wants of the country till 1st January, 1855?<sup>94</sup> Was that their idea of responsible Government? Yet, after advising His Excellency to give his assent to the Representation Bill, and the Franchise Bill containing the suspending clause, a Minister comes down and tells us that the Parliament is incompetent. Ah!

"Let the galled jade wince,  
Our withers are unwrung."<sup>95</sup>

He (Mr. Macdonald) believed then that this House did represent the feelings of the people of Canada, and he believed so still, and he felt quite competent to vote on any and every question that in any way affected the interests of the people of Canada.<sup>96</sup> Gentlemen on his (Mr. Macdonald's) side had always held that the present parliament was competent, and he was much surprised to hear the hon. Inspector General came [*sic*] down that day and tell the house that the government would not permit any legislation that session, but such as they chose to think was convenient. What! had it come to that? Were they a free parliament, or were they not? Had they to be told by the minister in that house that they must just do that which he would allow them and no more? And after that to be sent away to their homes? Might not the hon. gentleman go a step further and say "Take away that bauble!"--pointing to the mace. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) Sir, the hon. gentleman surpassed even himself in audacity, when he ventured to give that command. (hear, hear). The majority of the hon. member was dwindling beautifully less, and it might be very convenient for him to have a short session which would just pass such bills as he wanted. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Macdonald) believed that the announcement of the hon. Inspector General was an unconstitutional one, and that they might search in vain in the annals of any British Legislature for such an announcement from the mouth of a minister. He knew the answer that would be made to him on the part of the government. He would be told that he did not want to have the Clergy Reserves secularized this session nor any other session. That was quite true, but it did not alter the position of ministers.<sup>97</sup> [He admitted] that there might be some doubt as to the right of the House to legislate on the Clergy Reserves; that it might with some force be said that this question, being one that affected the religious prejudices of the people, was out of the usual category.... He soon proceeded to argue that this question which had been hung up so many years ... should have been brought down.<sup>98</sup> Every member of that house had interest in insisting that the pledges and promises of the government should be kept; and that the public mind should not be debauched by the moral wrongs of the government. They had interest that the public mind should not be contaminated. It was immoral that the government should occupy their places, upon the strength of violated pledges, and the grossest corruption, while they enriched themselves by speculations on public property. Did they not promise the people of Upper Canada that they would secularize the Clergy Reserves this Parliament? Did they not, in their eloquent speeches (for they were eloquent on the subject) in Upper Canada last summer, in their numerous after dinner speeches, let the people understand that the secularisation would be made this session? The people understood that. Now what



do they tell them,--the present Parliament is incompetent. Promises were broken, faith was betrayed, and expectations were disappointed. The hon. member for Norfolk read from newspapers, but what did the reform press of Upper Canada say? He did not mean the ministerial press--bought like sheep--and that wrote as they were paid to do. He found that 44 reform papers in Upper Canada, not under the ministerial influence, denounced their conduct.<sup>99</sup> *Passant en revue la conduite du ministère, depuis la dernière session, il lui reproche de s'être détourné des hautes fonctions dont il est revêtu pour se jeter dans des spéculations sordides, et d'avoir détourné, au profit de quelques-uns de ses membres, une portion importante de la propriété publique.*<sup>100</sup> He ... proceeded to make a personal attack on members of the government, declaring that the reason for not legislating on all questions arose out of a desire of the ministry to prevent an enquiry into their own conduct. He hoped the House would not be prorogued till the charges against members of the government were cleared up.<sup>101</sup> He said he had noticed the Hon. Postmaster General had been particular to deny a portion of his reported speech at Perth, in reference to the Clergy reserves, but another portion of that same speech, charging the Hon. Inspector General with corruption for purchasing public property, was not denied. He of course then inferred that the report was correct, and asked how it was that the hon. gentlemen still sat together in the same Cabinet after such a charge. He was surprised at their doing so, and the country might well be so too. What kept them together?--They could not respect each other--they could not love each other, after such a declaration, and if they kept together, it was that they feared each other:--the tie that kept them together was common plunder. It was dreadful to think of such a state of things, and there must be at [sic] end to it. William Pitt was a minister of the crown for many years, and was very often assailed with slander, but it was his custom, he said, to treat it with indifference and without reply, but on one occasion he was accused by a London newspaper with speculation in public property, and he felt it his duty to bring the slanderer to justice.<sup>102</sup> He ordered the Attorney-General to prosecute the slanderer. He complained that a like course had not been followed here, by members of the government against whom like charges had been preferred by certain newspapers.<sup>103</sup> Here we saw that one minister sat with another after a charge of corruption. There were no William Pitt's in this ministry,--No Sir, they are Robert Walpole's,--Robert Walpole was an able man in his way, and so are [a] few gentlemen opposite, but he was expelled the House of Commons for corruption. He (Mr. McDonald) would support the amendment. He trusted that the house would have sufficient independence to investigate the corruptions of the ministry! He trusted that the House would not allow them to play fast and loose, and make promises only to break them, in order that they may the better carry out their corrupt schemes! If the House should fail in independence to make such inquiry, it would be wanting not competency but in common honesty.<sup>104</sup> The ministry desired, by bringing the Clergy Reserves question before the people of U.C., and the Seigniorial tenure before these of Lower Canada, to direct attention from their own corruptions, and hoped that by holding up these questions as baits, they would again obtain power.<sup>105</sup>

MR. PRES. EX. COUN. ROLPH made some further remarks on the representation bill, but again, in such a tone as to render it impossible for the reporter to write them down.<sup>106</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS might not have considered it worth while to reply

to the hon. member for Kingston, except for the remarks he had made personal to him (Mr. H.) in reference to his share in the purchase of some property at Point Levi. The particulars of that he would immediately state; but he nevertheless<sup>107</sup> thought the discussion of such matters might have been introduced more appropriately than during the debate on the address.<sup>108</sup> Il était flatté de voir que<sup>109</sup> the hon. and gallant knight from Hamilton had that day put a notice on the paper for a committee of enquiry into that transaction<sup>110</sup>. That committee would at once be granted; and all the papers relating to the transaction would be laid before them. There was no desire to conceal anything that related to it. He had never expected, and nothing had been said to show that he expected Parliament would be brought quietly to a close, without affording ample opportunity for enquiry into these transactions.<sup>111</sup> Le résultat de cette enquête prouverait jusqu'où la malice et la calomnie avaient été portées.<sup>112</sup> He (Mr. H.) regretted that the hon. member for Kingston had seen fit to prejudge the case, and not waited for the investigations to be made by the committee.<sup>113</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD said he had not prejudged the case.<sup>114</sup> [He] had merely quoted the language of one of the Honorable Inspector General's colleagues, who had characterised it as an improper transaction.<sup>115</sup> He had said nothing of its merits beyond what he had inferred from the uncontradicted charge of the postmaster general in his speech at Perth.<sup>116</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS would come to that immediately; he had in his hand an authentic report of what the postmaster general said at Perth.<sup>117</sup> He would now state all the facts of the case: some time during the last Session of Parliament he was called upon by a friend who directed his attention to an advertisement in<sup>118</sup> one of the Quebec newspapers<sup>119</sup> which he had in his hand of the sale of certain property at Point Levi. His friend said a member of the Upper House thought of becoming a purchaser, and asked him (Mr. Hincks) if he would join them. This was the first time he knew the property was for sale. He took very little interest in the matter; but he replied that he had no objection to become one of the purchasers. At that time he had never seen the property. He visited it in company with others.<sup>120</sup> Four gentlemen were to join in the purchase with him. The upset price of the property was a little over six hundred pounds. One of the gentlemen who joined with him,<sup>121</sup> Mr. Mills, afterwards informed him that Mr. Fortier, of the Crown Lands Department, had reported on the property and recommended the sale of it, privately, for £1,000.<sup>122</sup> Mr. Mills, being very anxious to leave for Upper Canada before the sale took place, pressed him (Mr. H.) to offer a thousand pounds for the property. But he (Mr. H.) replied that that could not be done on any pretence; that the property must be sold by public competition. Upon that Mr. Mills left word to bid on the property<sup>123</sup>. Mr. Mills came to the conclusion that the highest price to which he would go was £1,500; but Mr. Mattice, who, as one of the purchasers attended the sale, bid it up to £1,800; and he (Mr. H.) contended that the public, so far from being injured, was benefited by the competition induced by his being one of the purchasers. He desired the fullest investigation into the whole matter.<sup>124</sup> All the particulars might be investigated by the committee, and the valuation of the property taken by the most competent men in Quebec.<sup>125</sup> During the whole time he had been in Canada, some 20 years,<sup>126</sup> this was the first instance in which he had ever, directly or indirectly, being [*sic*] concerned in the purchase of land from the Crown. He had been surprised to hear cheers proceeding from the

hon. and learned member for Toronto (Mr. Sherwood) when the charge was being made against him (Mr. Hincks).<sup>127</sup> When he heard so much noise made about his buying a few hundred pounds worth of public property at Quebec, ... he could not forbear asking how much of the public lands his father had received from the Government?<sup>128</sup> The member for Toronto (Mr. Sherwood) who had assailed him for this purchase, knew very well that the practice had been, in former times, for members of the Executive Council to grant themselves land for nothing; and perhaps he (Mr. S.) might find some transactions of this kind in his own family.<sup>129</sup> How much [had] the oldest families in Toronto of the family compact ... received?<sup>130</sup> The very highest gentleman [sic] amongst them, from the Bishop of Toronto himself, had taken the public property without giving a single shilling for it, and in that way enriched themselves. And from that day downwards, there was no law preventing him (Mr. Hincks) from going to a public auction and buying Government property. (Ironical cries of hear, hear.) Another honorable gentleman, the member for the county of Simcoe, and his family might know of something of the same kind.<sup>131</sup>

MR. ROBINSON.--I know nothing of the sort, my family never got a single acre of the public land.<sup>132</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said at any rate he spoke of the custom of the family compact to receive lands and he could not help doing so after the noise that had been made because he had purchased a public land at auction<sup>133</sup>. Now because he (Mr. H.) purchased some property from the Crown, at public auction, he was to be branded with the vilest epithets. He wished a full investigation to be made; to let the whole subject to be gone into; to see what lands had been granted to Ministers of the Crown for the last 20 years, and what had been given for them. The enquiry might extend to members of the House; for was he told that a member of the House may purchase public lands, but an executive officer must not?<sup>134</sup> With reference to Mr. Cameron's speech at Perth, he had a copy of that in his hand, and it did not contain the statements that the hon. member for Kent said it did.<sup>135</sup> Mr. Cameron never said the Point Levi purchase was a job.<sup>136</sup> Mr. Cameron only said, as he had the perfect right to do, that he did not approve of the principle of members of the Government buying crown lands, while at the same time he defended the government from the charges that had been made against them.<sup>137</sup> But the question was, was there any law to prevent it? (Ironical cries of hear, hear.) Was there any violation of laws in it? (Yes! Yes!) Purchases of that sort under circumstances far more open to censure had taken place at all times past in the history of the province, and all he could say was that he had not the least desire to shrink the fullest investigation.<sup>138</sup>

MR. POST. GEN. CAMERON rose and spoke in a very excited manner and in disconnected sentences, difficult to report.<sup>139</sup> [He] said the Inspector General had clearly answered all the attacks made upon him.<sup>140</sup> [He] said that Mr. Macdonald, following in the wake of the press, following in the wake of public slanderers, had made statements which were untrue.<sup>141</sup> The hon. member referred to the charge once brought against William Pitt for speculating in the funds, and said that this ministry were not like him and did not bring actions for slander. That statement was not true. Had not he (Mr. C.) recently, and at great expense brought on action for a slander against him, and had travelled hundreds of miles to clear his character from a foul attack made upon it.<sup>142</sup> With regard to his Perth speech, he was defending his colleague instead of attacking him. He had gone over the charges



connected with the Sault Ste. Marie Canal, by which it was said the Inspector General cleared a fabulous sum, and the £50,000 Grand Trunk Railway charge. Government were willing to grant committees to investigate every one of these charges.<sup>143</sup> Was he not at the very time of alluding to the Point Levi affair, defending himself and his colleagues!<sup>144</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD--"Save me from my friends."<sup>145</sup>

MR. POST. GEN. CAMERON went on to say that with an unblushingness which Lucifer might be ashamed of, men had put forth falsehoods black as hell, against himself and other members of the government.<sup>146</sup> (Cries of order.) It was necessary to talk in language that hon. members could understand. The hon. member went on to give some details in relation to his suit against the Sarnia Shield contending that he could not take any other course to defend his character.<sup>147</sup> He brought an action in the Queen's Bench, and went to Sarnia with his witnesses at a great expense. And had he not shewn that the petition was endorsed--"James Harvey Price!"<sup>148</sup> He and his counsel had been anxious to have Mr. Price's evidence but the judge refused to admit it.<sup>149</sup>

Several interruptions took place, the amount of which was that COL. PRINCE and MR. SOL. GEN. MORRISON corroborated Mr. Cameron's statement, with reference to Mr. Price's evidence, while on the other hand MR. BROWN held that the trial amounted to nothing in the absence of Mr. Price's evidence, as it was on an alleged statement of his that the article against Mr. Cameron was written, and on which the whole case depended.<sup>150</sup>

MR. BROWN said the hon. gentleman was barking up the wrong tree. There was a very wide difference between the petition and the report of the Council. Mr. Cameron brought a great deal of evidence about the petition, but not about the report of the Council, which he was charged with attempting to put through. Mr. Cameron then complained, that even after he had got a verdict in his favor the slanders against him had been repeated.--What then was the use of bringing actions? What was the use of reasoning with such slanderers!<sup>151</sup> Mr. Brown ... made an attempt to misrepresent the nature of the charge contained in the libel, just as he did in the Globe immediately after the trial<sup>152</sup>.

MR. POST. GEN. CAMERON exposed the falsehood which the member for Kent unblushingly tried to palm upon the House.<sup>153</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD said he could not allow the vile and wanton attack that the Inspector General had seen fit to make on the memory of his father to pass without reply! What reason the hon. member could have had to make such an attack he hardly could imagine! Whether it arose from this [sic] ungovernable temper, or a wish to punish him (Mr. S.) for expressing approbation of certain portions of the speech of the hon. member for Kingston, or whether he thought he would mend his own position by showing that others had done wrong, he (Mr. S.) could not tell. But the charge that hon. member had made against his (Mr. Sherwood's) father was as unfounded and untrue as it was vile and wanton. His father never received any land from the government, except 100 acres as the son of a U.E. loyalist, which were of very paltry value at the time. The whole course of his father's life was of unquestioned and unquestionable honesty and uprightness! No charge had ever been made against him! Mr. S. proceeded to narrate some particulars of his connection with political life, and to deny that he had ever received any grants of land from the government.<sup>154</sup> [He] denied that he had ever made application for an acre of public land, or that he had ever got a favor from a Conservative or Reform

Government in his life.<sup>155</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS could assure the hon. member for Toronto, that he had no desire to attack his venerable father for whom he entertained feelings of the highest respect. He could also assure the hon. member for Simcoe that he entertained the same sentiments for his family. He spoke hastily, and when he might be irritated at the course the debate had taken. All that he wanted to convey was, that it was of popular repute that the party known as the family compact, had been in the habit of receiving lands from the Government, the committee however to be appointed might set the matter right by inquiry into the exact position of the case.<sup>156</sup>

MR. ROBINSON said that Mr. Hincks' warmth of temper was rather unfortunate for himself and was certainly no proof of innocence.<sup>157</sup> So far to lose one's temper was not the sign of a good cause, and ... the hon. member would not clear his own sins by imputing or discovering similar on his (Mr. R.'s) side of the House. He was willing that there should be investigation into the conduct of the family compact and felt well assured that it ... would be found in the right.<sup>158</sup>

COL. PRINCE said it was a principle both of law and equity that a trustee for the public weal, as a minister of the crown, cannot purchase the property of his principal<sup>159</sup> by private contract or public auction<sup>160</sup>; and that any purchases so made would, if application were made, be set aside by the Court of Chancery. He related the history of the Cameron libel suit, at which he was present as a spectator; and said he never saw greater anxiety on the part of a plaintiff to bring out the whole facts, than was shown by the Post Master General.<sup>161</sup> [He] accused Mr. Brown [of] having acted most improperly in questioning the propriety of conduct which had been confirmed by a jury of the country.<sup>162</sup>

MR. BROWN thought it necessary to make a remark or two on this subject. Col. Prince said it was improper to question the verdict which a jury of the country had rendered in the case. How could he make such a statement, when he knew very well that that verdict had been given without a single witness having been examined! Witnesses were present to prove as the defendant expected, that what had been said was true, but the Judge prevented them from opening their mouths. The Postmaster General said the Press had slandered him; but if ever the Press deserved credit for what it did, it was the Sarnia Shield and the paper from which it copied. It ill became Mr. Cameron to speak as he had done of the gentleman whom he had prosecuted, who was so anxious to give fair play to the Postmaster General, that with that frankness and chivalric feeling which characterized him, and hurried away by the impulse of the moment, he had on one-sided evidence written an article admitting that he was incorrect to a far greater extent than he should have done. Why did not Mr. Cameron prosecute the Brantford Courier from which the Shield copied?<sup>163</sup>

MR. POST. GEN. CAMERON.--The Brantford Courier made no allusion to me.<sup>164</sup>

MR. BROWN.--The Courier stated the case, and said it was a member for the Lafontaine ministry who did it, and every one knew who was meant. The Sarnia Shield merely copied that statement, adding that the Hon. Malcolm Cameron was the person alluded to. He was surprised at Mr. Cameron's having to-night traduced Mr. Mackenzie, the editor of the Shield, as a slanderer, although he well knew that he had done him far more than justice. Mr. Brown then alluded in a sentence or two [to] the defence Mr. Hincks had set up for the

Point Levi job. It ill became the Hon. Inspector General to bring up the doings of the Family Compact as a defence for his conduct. (Hear, hear.)<sup>165</sup> If he had no better case than the sins of the family compact, he would have a very poor defence. Their sins would not clear him. With respect to his explanations of the Point Levi property, he (Mr. B.) did not think the hon. member had told the whole case.<sup>166</sup> The hon. gentleman talked of the property having brought a very high price, but he forgot to say one-fourth of it was sold shortly afterwards at a very great advance, and that it was purchased with the idea of making it a railway terminus.<sup>167</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS.--No such thing.<sup>168</sup>

MR. BROWN said that 280 acres of the land were on the River St. Lawrence, and likely to become of greater value, and yet it was sold for about £5 an acre. Members should not go away with the impression that the hon. gentleman had stated the whole facts of the case, for many more had to come out.<sup>169</sup> He had ... understood that a portion of their property had been sold since at a profit.<sup>170</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS--The hon. member is introducing new matter. It is better to let the committee investigate.<sup>171</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE said it was getting very late and he wanted to go to bed. Hon. members had been telling each other some wholesome truths--enough for one night. (laughter.)<sup>172</sup> But as it was now 12 o'clock, he begged to move that the debate be adjourned.<sup>173</sup>

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*On motion of Mr. Prince, seconded by Mr. Malloch,  
Ordered, That the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.*

*Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Macdonald, seconded by Mr. Prince,  
The House adjourned.*



APPENDIX: 19 JUNE 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO REGULATE POTASH AND PEARL-ASH.]

MR. YOUNG ... [gave notice that he would move for leave to introduce] a bill for the regulation of Pot and Pearl-Ashes.<sup>174</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION: QUEBEC AND SAGUENAY RAILWAY BILL.]

MR. DUBORD [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate the Quebec and Saguenay Railway Company.<sup>175</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE SALE OF POINT LEVI PROPERTY.]<sup>176</sup>

SIR A MACNAB [gave notice that] on Thursday next [he would move for the] appointment of a committee to enquire into and report on the sale of certain properties belonging to the Crown at or near Point Levi and into the circumstances attending such sale, said Committee to have power to send for persons, papers, and records, and to report thereon from time to time.<sup>177</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS FOR POINT LEVI PROPERTY PAPERS.]<sup>178</sup>

SIR A MACNAB [gave notice that] on Thursday next [he would move for an] address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause the proper officer to lay before the House, (for the purpose of referring the same to a Committee) all the orders in Council, departmental orders, papers, and documents whatsoever, relating to the sale referred to in the preceding notice, together with the names of the parties purchasing the same, and the names of those known to be interested in the said purchase.<sup>179</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ADDRESS RE GOVERNMENT DIRECTORS OF GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.]<sup>180</sup>

SIR A. MACNAB [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move for an] address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that he will cause to be laid before the House, the names of the persons appointed to be Government Directors of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, together with a return of the number of shares in the capital stock of the said company held by each of the said Directors, with the amount paid thereon; and also a return of the situations or offices held by the said Directors, or any of them connected with the said company, or with contractors for constructing the said Railway; and also a copy of instructions, if any, given to the said Directors for their guidance in protecting provincial interests at the Board of Directors of said Company.<sup>181</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: GOVERNMENT INTENTIONS FOR THE QUEBEC PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.]

MR. STUART [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would make] enquiry of Ministers, whether any determination has been come to respecting the ruins, and site of the Parliament Buildings in the city of Quebec, and whether any steps have been taken for the rebuilding of Parliament Buildings in the city of Quebec, and if so, in what place.<sup>182</sup>

[QUESTION AND ANSWER RE: JUDGE MONDELET'S REMARKS ABOUT THE QUEEN.]<sup>183</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD enquired what steps, if any, had been taken by the government in consequence of certain remarks by Mr. Justice Mondelet, designating the Queen a murderess, &c.<sup>184</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said the government were of opinion that the proper course to be taken in respect to this question was to abstain from any explanations.<sup>185</sup>

[WITHDRAWN MOTION RE: COMMISSION TO REVISE AND PUBLISH THE GENERAL STATUTES.]

COL. PRINCE moved for the appointment of a commission to revise and republish the general statutes.<sup>186</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND answered that the Government had not the pecuniary means at present to pay for attainments sufficiently high to do it.<sup>187</sup>

FOOTNOTES: 19 JUNE 1854.

1. This debate was reported by GLOBE, 29 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MORNING CHRONICLE, 20 June 1854) of the debate.
2. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 20 June 1854).
3. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
4. IBID.
5. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 20 June 1854).
6. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
7. IBID.
8. The following papers reported the debate on this matter in identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854, MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard), and QUEBEC GAZETTE, 22 June 1854. The debate was also reported by: EXAMINER, 28 June 1854; and PILOT, 23 June 1854.
9. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854.
10. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
11. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854.
12. IBID.
13. IBID.
14. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 20 June 1854).
15. The following papers reported the debate in partially identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 21, 22 June 1854, MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22, 23 June 1854 (also in Scrapbook Hansard), QUEBEC GAZETTE, 22, 24 June 1854, and NORTH AMERICAN WEEKLY, 5 July 1854, (which contained only a portion of debate reported in MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 June 1854). The debate was also reported by: LE PAYS, 22 June 1854; PILOT, 23 June 1854; TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854; GLOBE, 29 June 1854; EXAMINER, 28 June 1854; and HAMILTON SPECTATOR (which was partly identical to MORNING CHRONICLE, 21, 22 June 1854, and partly to GLOBE, 29 June 1854). The debate was noted by MACKENZIE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE, 23 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 21 June 1854) of the debate.
16. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
17. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
18. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
19. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
20. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
21. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
22. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
23. IBID.
24. LE PAYS, 24 June 1854.
25. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
26. LE PAYS, 24 June 1854.
27. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
28. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
29. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
30. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
31. IBID.
32. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
33. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
34. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
35. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
36. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
37. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
38. IBID.



39. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
40. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
41. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
42. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
43. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
44. IBID.
45. IBID.
46. IBID.
47. IBID.
48. LE PAYS, 22 June 1854.
49. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
50. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
51. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
52. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854.
53. PILOT, 23 June 1854.
54. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
55. PILOT, 23 June 1854.
56. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
57. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
58. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
59. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
60. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
61. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
62. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
63. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
64. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
65. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
66. LE PAYS, 22 June 1854.
67. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
68. IBID.
69. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 June 1854.
70. LE PAYS, 22 June 1854.
71. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
72. IBID.
73. IBID.
74. IBID.
75. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
76. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
77. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
78. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
79. IBID.
80. IBID.
81. IBID.
82. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
83. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
84. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
85. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
86. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854, noted that, "Dr. Rolph spoke for an hour and a half ... but was inaudible, especially as he turned his back toward the reporters' gallery. There was also a buzz in the strangers' gallery while he was speaking."
87. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
88. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
89. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).

90. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
91. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
92. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
93. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
94. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
95. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
96. EXAMINER, 28 June 1854.
97. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
98. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
99. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
100. LE PAYS, 22 June 1854.
101. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
102. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
103. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
104. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
105. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 June 1854.
106. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
107. IBID.
108. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
109. LE PAYS, 22 June 1854.
110. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
111. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
112. LE PAYS, 22 June 1854.
113. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
114. IBID.
115. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
116. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
117. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard). LE PAYS, 22 June 1854, noted, "M. Hincks ... avait condamné [M. Cameron] à écrire, séance tenante, les expressions dont il s'était servi relativement à l'affaire de la Pointe Lévi. Il le fit d'assez mauvaise grâce".
118. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
119. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
120. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
121. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
122. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
123. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
124. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
125. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
126. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
127. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
128. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
129. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
130. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
131. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
132. IBID.
133. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
134. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
135. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
136. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
137. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
138. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
139. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
140. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.

141. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
142. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
143. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
144. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
145. IBID.
146. IBID.
147. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
148. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
149. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
150. IBID.
151. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
152. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
153. IBID.
154. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
155. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
156. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
157. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
158. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
159. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
160. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
161. TORONTO LEADER, 24 June 1854.
162. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
163. IBID.
164. IBID.
165. IBID.
166. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
167. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
168. IBID.
169. IBID.
170. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
171. IBID.
172. IBID.
173. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 27 June 1854.
174. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 21 June 1854).
175. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854.
176. This notice was reported by MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 21 June 1854) of the notice.
177. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854.
178. This notice was reported by MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 21 June 1854) of the notice.
179. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854.
180. This notice was reported by MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 21 June 1854) of the notice.
181. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854.
182. IBID.
183. This question and answer was reported by GLOBE, 29 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MORNING CHRONICLE, 20 June 1854) of the answer.
184. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
185. IBID.
186. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 20 June 1854).
187. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 20 June 1854). It may be inferred that the motion was withdrawn; it does not appear in the JOURNALS.



TUESDAY, 20 JUNE 1854.

(24)

THE following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Wright of the East Riding of York,--The Petition of Francis Campbell, Alderman, and others, on behalf of a public meeting of the inhabitants of the Township of Chinguacousy: the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Chinguacousy, County of Peel; and the Petition of John Lynch and others, of the County of Peel, the junior County of the United Counties of York and Peel.

By Mr. Crawford,--The Petition of the Leeds, Lanark and Renfrew Locomotive Manufacturing Company; the Petition of the Brockville and Ottawa Railway Company; and the Petition of the Brockville Division, Number One, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By the Honorable Mr. Cameron,--The Petition of Cascade Division, No. 155,

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of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; the Petition of Prince Edward Division, No. 14, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; the Petition of Lanark Division, No. 409, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; and the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Stanley.

By the Honorable Mr. Macdonald,--The Petition of Horatio Yates, Esquire, and others, of the City of Kingston; the Petition of Frontenac Division, No. 2, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; and the Petition of John Flanagan, Esquire, Mayor, and others, of the City of Kingston.

By Mr. Langton,--Two Petitions of the Municipal Council of the United Counties of Peterborough and Victoria; and the Petition of Peterborough Division, No. 45, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By the Honorable Mr. Morin,--The Petition of the Seminary of Ste. Thérèse de Blainville.

By Mr. Mackenzie,--The Petition of the Municipal Council of the County of Haldimand.

By Mr. Lacoste,--The Petition of P.P. Demaray, Esquire, and others, of the County of Chambly.

By Mr. Valois,--The Petition of N. Dufort and others, of Rivière des Prairies.

By Mr. Mattice,--The Petition of Robert Brown and others, of the 4th concession, from the Indian Reservation to the East of Lot No. 7, in the Township of Cornwall.

By the Honorable Mr. Papineau,--The Petition of W. Snowdon, Esquire, and others, of the County of Two Mountains; the Petition of A. Merizzi and others, of St. Cyprien; and the Petition of the Reverend A. Groulx and others, of St. Benoit, and Ste. Scholastique, County of Two Mountains.

By the Honorable Mr. Badgley,--The Petition of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Quebec, on behalf of the Bishop, Clergy, and Laity of the Church of the United Kingdom of England and Ireland, of the Diocese of Quebec, in Conference convened.

By the Honorable Mr. Chauveau,--The Petition of A. Plamondon, Esquire, and others, Members of St. Rochs Reading Room, Quebec.

By Mr. Solicitor General Morrison,--The Petition of William Henry Smith and others, Shareholders in the Provident Life Assurance and Investment Company.

By Mr. Ridout,--The Petition of Charles Jones and others, of the City of Toronto.

By Mr. McDougall,--The Petition of the Reverend P.H. Suzor and others, of Arthabaska, and other Townships in the Judiciary Circuit of Arthabaska.

By Mr. Saxborn,--The Petition of Elias Cheney and others, of the Sherbrooke Academy.

By Mr. Prince,--The Petition of Robert Scott and others, of the Town of London.

By Mr. Stuart,--The Petition of John Sharples, Esquire, President, and others, the Committee of Management of the Congregation of Catholics, of Quebec, speaking the English Language.

By Mr. LeBlanc,--The Petition of J.H. Masson, Esquire, and others, of the Parish of St. Anicet, and Township of Dundee, County of Beauharnois; and the Petition of the Reverend P. Bedard and others, of the Counties of Huntingdon and Beauharnois.

By Mr. Willson,--The Petition of David Cluniss and others, of the Township of Williams, United Counties of Middlesex and Elgin.

By Mr. Gamble,--The Petition of the Municipal Council of the United Counties of York and Peel; and the Petition of the Municipal Council of the United Counties of York, Ontario, and Peel.

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By Mr. Seymour,--The Petition of Eastern Star Division, No. 204, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

Ordered, That the Petition of the Clerk and other Officers and Servants of this House; the Petition of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada; the Petition of the President and Directors of the City Bank of Montreal; the Petition of the Commercial Bank of the Midland District; the Petition of the Church Society of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Diocese of Montreal; the Petition of John Boston, Esquire, and others, of the City of Montreal; the Petition of J. Sanderson, Esquire, and others, of the County of Peel, a junior County of the United Counties of York, Ontario and Peel; and the Petition of J.T. Taschereau, Esquire, and others, of the City of Quebec and vicinity, be printed.

Upon MR. STUART's<sup>1</sup> motion for an address for the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the fires nt (sic) the Parliament Houses, MR. MACKENZIE said that he had always expected a conflagration in the old buildings on account of their bad construction, and had pointed that out repeatedly to the Clerk of the House, and especially to the Commissioner of Public Works, whom he had warned to increase the insurance on the building. He found, however, much to his surprise, that nothing had been done. So at the convent, the building filled with chips and shavings was left to take care of itself, without watchmen. Such conduct was a scandalous neglect of public duty.<sup>2</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said the Commissioners had been [appointed] to ascertain the cause of the fire. Not[with]standing every enquiry, the cause of it still remained a mystery.<sup>3</sup>

(26)

On motion of Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Polette,

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House, any Commission appointing Commissioners to inquire into the origin of the Fire which consumed the Parliament Buildings in this City since the last meeting of the Legislature, as also the Evidence taken under such Commission, and the Report of the Commissioners.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin,  
Resolved, That this House doth concur in the Report of the Select Committee appointed to prepare and report Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this House.

Resolved, That a Select Committee, composed of the Honorable Mr. Sherwood, Sir Allan N. MacNab, the Honorable Mr. Papineau, the Honorable Mr. Morin, the Honorable Mr. Macdonald, the Honorable Mr. Badgley, the Honorable Mr. Chauveau, and Mr. Cauchon, be appointed to assist Mr. Speaker in the direction of the Library of Parliament so far as the interests of this House are concerned, and to act on behalf of this House as Members of a Joint Committee of both Houses for the regulation and management of the Library.

Resolved, That a Message be sent to the Honorable the Legislative Council, communicating to their Honors a Copy of the foregoing Resolution, appointing certain Members to act on behalf of this House, as Members of a Joint Committee of both Houses for the direction of the Library of Parliament; and requesting their Honors to appoint Members of their Honorable Body to unite with the Members of this House therein named, for the said purpose.

Ordered, That Sir Allan N. MacNab and the Honorable Mr. Papineau do carry the said Message to the Legislative Council.

Ordered, That the Petition of William Winder, Esquire, Librarian of the Legislative Assembly, be referred to the Select Committee for the direction of the Library of Parliament.

Ordered, That Mr. Prince have leave to bring in a Bill to prevent the cruel and improper treatment of Cattle and other Animals, and to amend the Law relating to impounding the same.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday next.

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The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate upon the Amendment which was yesterday proposed to be made to the fourth paragraph of the Question, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his gracious Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:

To express to His Excellency the regret we feel that during the Recess the Province has sustained serious loss by fire, in the destruction of the Houses of Parliament, and of the Building which was subsequently secured for the temporary occupation of the Legislature, and our satisfaction that the best arrangements practicable under the circumstances have been adopted for our accommodation:

To assure His Excellency that, this House heartily responds to the manifestations of Loyalty to Her Majesty The Queen, Our Most Gracious Sovereign, and of sympathy with the Parent State, which have been so general throughout the Province, at this conjuncture, when Her Majesty, having failed in Her anxious and protracted endeavours to preserve for Her People the Blessings of peace, has felt Herself called upon by regard for an Ally, the integrity and independence of whose Empire has been recognized as essential to the peace of Europe, by the sympathies of Her People with right against wrong, and by a



desire to avert from Her Dominions most injurious consequences, to take up arms in conjunction with the Emperor of the French for the defence of the Sultan; and that we believe the cordial co-operation of England and France in this war is well calculated to call forth the sympathies of the Inhabitants of this Country, peopled mainly by the descendants of those two powerful Empires:

That this House learns with satisfaction that His Excellency having, during his recent visit to England, been honored by the Queen's command to endeavour to effect the settlement of various important questions bearing upon the interests of the British North American Provinces which had been long pending between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, proceeded to Washington, where, after frank discussion with the Authorities of the United States, he has been enabled to conclude a Treaty, which now awaits ratification, upon terms which, it is His Excellency's firm conviction, will prove in the highest degree advantageous to the Colonies generally, as well as to the United States; and that this House will give proper attention to a measure which may be introduced to give effect to that Treaty:

That this House will also consider attentively the Despatch which His Excellency has received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, when communicated, with reference to the Addresses to the Queen from the two Houses of the Legislature, on the subject of the Constitution of the Legislative Council, transmitted by His Excellency at the close of the last Session of the Provincial Parliament, to be laid at the foot of the Throne:

That this House will give its best consideration to any measure which may be submitted for bringing into early operation the Act of last Session which extends the Elective Franchise, in order that a Constitutional expression of opinion may be obtained as speedily as possible under the system of representation recently established, on the various important questions on which legislation is required:

That this House will give due attention to the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the present year, when laid before them; and that His Excellency may rely on our willingness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Government:

That this House learns with satisfaction that the prosperous condition of the Revenue may allow the making of such reductions in the Tariff as may be compatible with security to the public creditor and efficiency in the Public Service:

That this House has learned with pleasure that His Excellency, during His sojourn in England, received from all quarters proofs of increasing interest in Canadian affairs, and is fully persuaded that His Excellency's acquaintance

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with the Province, derived from long residence within it, has enabled him to render great service in spreading more widely a knowledge of its resources and of the feelings of the inhabitants:

That they concur with His Excellency in the belief that, although a state of warfare has a necessary tendency to restrict operations involving large expenditures of capital, the credit of Canada has attained a position in English opinion which it never before achieved; and that in order to retain it, this House will endeavour to act with prudence in all undertakings, and to maintain the high character for fidelity to pecuniary engagements which the Province has at all times borne;

And which Amendment was, That after the word "Treaty" at the end of the said paragraph, the words "That this House sees with regret that His Excellency's Government do not intend to submit to the Legislature, during the

*present Session, a Bill for the immediate settlement of the Seigniorial Question," be inserted;*

*And the Question on the Amendment being again proposed:--The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.*<sup>4</sup>

MR. HARTMAN then proceeded with the debate on the Address. The House, he said, had been told by the Cabinet that it had, by the legislation of last session, become incompetent to legislate on any important subject. He was not prepared to say that on constitutional principles there was not some reason in this; but there were two questions about which there could be no doubt of the competence of the House--he meant the Reserves and the Tenure.<sup>5</sup> He did not think there was any force in the constitutional objection to the incompetency of the present Parliament to dispose at least of questions so fully understood as the Clergy Reserves and the Seigniorial Tenure, which had agitated the country so long, and with very bad results.<sup>6</sup> There were very few people in the country not taken by surprise, after the declarations of the ministry in Upper Canada and in Parliament, with the announcement that these important reforms were not to be proceeded with. It was unnecessary to reply to the arguments of the ministry in support of their course--they had been already ably replied to by the press and in that House; but he must express his opinion that with regard to the questions to which he alluded delay was without any possible excuse, because it was well known that there could be no change, unless it were a change by which public opinion would be rendered more strong than at present; but strong in the same direction as at present. He had not intended to say anything on the Tenure, but he now thought it would be well to move an amendment to Mr. Cauchon's amendment, so as to unite the two subjects. He had not voted for the amendment relative to the meeting of Parliament because he did not conceive that to be a point on which he could be justified in stopping all legislation. The expression of feeling last session was doubtless very plain; but still there was some discretion left in the hands of the government as usual, and all he could say, therefore, on that subject, was that the sooner an alteration was made in our system of government by which the prerogative was everything and the good of the people nothing, the better it would be for the country. The experience of the last ten years must convince any man that the influence of the Ministry on the House was highly injurious. The amendment of the member for Toronto the other night brought this strongly before him, and made him reflect that if the independence of Canada was ever to be carried out there must be less executive influence in the way of popular progress. He was glad to hear the gentlemen opposite declare themselves so strongly in favour of the settlement of the Reserves question; but he had heard none of them say they wanted them secularized, and his amendment would give an opportunity for the expression of their opinion on that point. He, like them, though, he believed, for another reason, desired the settlement of the question; but, unlike them, he had no fear of going to the country upon it. Still he knew that in the coming contest many questions might be mixed up with this one, and the decisions arrived at might be very much influenced by extraneous considerations, so as in some cases, perhaps, to be adverse. But he was at least certain that since the policy of the ministry had been made known there had been one outburst of dissatisfaction in Upper Canada, from one end of it to the other. He then moved the following amendment to Mr. Cauchon's amendment, saying that he thought the two questions he had spoken of went together, and that he would not vote for one proposition unless the other was joined with it:--

Mr. Hartman moved in amendment to the said amendment, to leave out all the

words after "House," and add the following instead thereof: "regrets that His Excellency has not been advised to recommend during the present Session, a measure for the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, and also a measure for the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure."<sup>7</sup>

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*Mr. Hartman moved in amendment to the said proposed Amendment, seconded by Mr. Sicotte, That all the words after "House" be left out, and the words "regrets that His Excellency has not been advised to recommend, during the present Session, a measure for the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, and also a measure for the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure" inserted instead thereof;*

MR. LANGTON, though he had given notice of a separate amendment, thought it would be more convenient to speak upon the address at that stage of the debate than when he moved his own proposition. The House was now in a difficulty, which arose chiefly from the vacillating policy of the ministry in reference to the dissolution of the House. He believed that this dissolution ought to have taken place the moment the representation bill was passed: but what had been the conduct of the government? When the subject was first mentioned last session by the hon. member for South York, the Inspector General expressed an opinion that the dissolution must at once take place. Afterwards, the member for Kingston objecting to the bill that if it were good in itself, it was improper to pass it immediately upon the assembling of a new Parliament, since it must lead to an immediate dissolution, the hon. Inspector General again spoke of it, this time, in a rather different manner, for he said that he was not certain that an immediate dissolution was necessary. Again, a direct question was put to the Inspector General by the member for Gaspe, and then the latter gentleman (*sic*) expressly stated that there would be no dissolution on account of the passing of the representation bill. That pledge was as distinct as any pledge could be<sup>8</sup>, as distinct and as recklessly broken as those which they had given in regard to the time for the Assembling of Parliament.<sup>9</sup> There was therefore an evident gradual change of opinion, and the view at last arrived at must therefore be looked on as the matured one, come to after due consideration, and not meant as a mere trick of expediency to serve a temporary purpose. This idea appeared everywhere: it was said, for instance, that it would not be advisable to legislate at the end of the session on the Clergy Reserves; but there was not a word about the postponement of that legislation beyond another session. So in the after-dinner speeches, during the ministerial triumphal march through Upper Canada after the session, there was not a whisper about the propriety of putting off the settlement of the question. No one heard of that till the time approached at which Parliament ought to meet. Then the new light broke in. Here the hon. member read several extracts from speeches of the ministry at a great number of places in Upper Canada, all pointing to an immediate settlement of the Reserves question, and not one containing a hint that immediate meant anything else but next session.<sup>10</sup> In one of those speeches, the Inspector General said, "The Clergy Reserve question is now in a position to be settled according to the wishes of the people."<sup>11</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS--Did I say it would be settled next session?<sup>12</sup>

MR. LANGTON--Not in so many words; but what did the hon. member lead the public of Upper Canada to believe? The words of a minister of the crown were not to be taken like those of a lawyer, but in the sense which they conveyed to those who heard them; and when the hon. gentleman said at a public dinner,



"the question of the Reserves is now in a position for immediate settlement," no one in the country could understand that the settlement was to be put off for two sessions.<sup>13</sup> He was astonished that the Ministry should attempt to shelter themselves under such a verbal quibble.<sup>14</sup> He confessed that he had been astonished at the turn given to this matter the night before by the President of the Council. For a gentleman, who could so nicely explain the difference between moral and legal obligations, it did seem to him extraordinary that the hon. member should have thought the House might properly legislate on the reserves, as it did last session, after the representation bill had passed but could not do so after the assent of the Governor General, which every one knew was a matter of course, had been given. He was very sorry, too, to see a gentleman who possessed such a command of words of his own, resort to the practice of reading so much from newspapers. He had read from the journals of the members for Kent and Haldimand opinions which those members were present to explain much better for themselves, and had also read some of the opinions of the editor of the Examiner, which any one could have for a few dollars, though he had taken care not to read certain other opinions of the same gentleman, which others might think quite as interesting. He (Mr. L.) had been glad for the sake of the Inspector General that he was reposing at the time from state affairs, and, therefore, was unable to hear the remarks of his colleague, which, had he heard them, he must have felt to be applying the last to himself rather than to the opposition. When the hon. gentleman, with all his parliamentary and constitutional lore, spoke as he did about appealing to the people, did he not know that one of his colleagues had declared that he saw no necessity for such an appeal? But the hon. President of the Council was then reposing in philosophical calm on the upper benches, and the light which had since appeared had not then broken forth. The hon. gentleman, however, had a reason to give for the course he had adopted. The franchise law was not yet in force, and upon this head the Inspector General had gone still further than his colleague, for he had alleged that there could be no such bill, and in that vehement manner of his, in which violent and repeated asseveration was made to stand in the place of proof, he had appealed to gentlemen around him to corroborate his assertion. Now he (Mr. L.) knew something of municipal law in Canada West, and he declared there was nothing to prevent such a law from being in operation.--Even now the law was useless without further legislation, and that legislation might have taken place last session by a supplemental bill just as well as now. But statesmen ought to know none of these impossibilities; it was their place to find a remedy for everything wrong, and this the country had especially a right to expect when the remedy was so easy. But did it never occur to the President of the Council, with all his constitutional love (sic), that the country ought never to be left longer than could possibly be avoided without an efficient Parliament, always ready to be called together to consult for the public good. Did he mean to say he would go on without the franchise law for a whole year, all the while having no competent Parliament? Why he (Mr. L.) could not imagine that the most ignorant statesman would act in such a manner. He was forced to return to the idea of some new light having been suddenly visible. He was charitable enough to suppose the ministry had made a mistake, and were now conscious of their error but admitting this was the case, he complained of such want of foresight, especially when the position in which they were placed was expressly brought under their notice last session. It seemed, however, that it was now determined that the House must do nothing except some two or three (sic) little measures which were to include a large grant of money. In truth, it was plain that the ministry had withdrawn its confidence from the House, perhaps because the House has plainly withdrawn its

confidence from them. He had heard it rumoured that when the bill allowing the Canadian Parliament to deal with the Clergy Reserves question passed the Imperial Legislature, there was an intimation thrown out in high quarters that nothing ought to be done without an appeal to the people. We would like to know whether that rumour were well founded.<sup>15</sup> The Government must have known of this, if [t]here was anything in the rumour, before the en[d] of last session.<sup>16</sup> Whatever was the reason which had decided the ministry, however, their trifling with the interests of the country ought not to pass without remonstrance. How did they propose to get out of their dilemma? The President of the Council said it was better to do right late than never; but he should remember there was a tide in the affairs of man which should not be neglected; and as the ministry had failed to dissolve at the proper moment, they ought not now to make all the interests of the country stand still on account of their blunder; having gone on so far they ought still to proceed. From the two most important measures before the country the House was especially interdicted; yet, whatever might be said about the differences of opinion which certainly prevailed on the Clergy Reserves, there was no pretence of any such difficulty with respect to the Tenure, for with regard to that the opinion of all Lower Canada, except (*sic*) as to details, which could not be decided at the polls, was thoroughly united with the exception of some hundreds of individuals. As to the Reserves, he would have preferred an appeal to the people at once, though he had no doubt their decision even now would be given in the way he thought just--he meant for their secularization; but he knew that that question would be more or less subjected to other considerations, involving especially the question of confidence in the ministry; and he was well assured that in this connection it would be constantly asked at the polls if any confidence could be placed in a finance minister of the crown who openly declared to the people that he had a right to become a money jobber and deal in the public stocks for his own profit.<sup>17</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS believed the gentleman who spoke last had been himself compelled to admit that a great deal was to be said on each side with respect to the settlement of the Reserves, and admitting all that was said about the ministerial changes of policy to be correct--which he, of course, denied<sup>18</sup>, his colleague, Dr. Rolph's remark last night--"Better late than never"--was sufficient reply to gentlemen opposite, who last session insisted on the very principles on which the Government were now proposing to act. The gentlemen opposite had changed their position as well as the Government. Last session they considered that an immediate dissolution necessarily followed the passage of the Franchise, and Representation Acts. Now on the contrary they were quite ready to go to the settlement of the Reserve question during the present session, rather than appeal to the people.<sup>19</sup> The member for Peterboro had not treated fairly his expression of opinion last session. When the question about dissolution was first put to him he gave his impression on the spur of the moment, not in a way to pledge the Government.<sup>20</sup>

MR. CAUCHON--Was it not distinctly stated that there should be another session of this parliament?<sup>21</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS admitted that; but all the statements were made with reference to circumstances which might render a change of resolution necessary. The passage of the franchise bill he repeated made a dissolution altogether inexpedient till after it could be brought into operation; and though government were responsible, doubtless, for that bill, yet any other members of the House might have proposed amendments to make it sooner operative.<sup>22</sup> The hon.

member for Peterboro, (Mr. Langton) had alluded to the speeches made in what had been termed the Western Progress of the Ministry last summer. The question of a dissolution had not then been fairly considered by the Government<sup>23</sup>, and he held that the speeches then made were quite consistent with the present action of the Government.<sup>24</sup> So far as he was personally concerned, he had been most careful to avoid saying anything as to the Reserves being settled next session, and had talked freely with friends in the west as to the possibility of an appeal being made to the people before that settlement took place. After all, what absolute necessity was there for settling the question during the present session. Taking an extreme view of what might happen, and supposing a Parliament to be returned hostile to the settlement, it would in reality make very little difference to the people of the country even if another Parliament should pass over without their settlement. (Ironical cries of "hear, hear.")<sup>25</sup> The question ... was still in the hands of the people of the country, and therefore the delay could be of no consequence, no new life interests could arise to be protected under the condition which requires them to be preserved, and the secularization could only take effect upon revenues yet to fall in.<sup>26</sup> As to the views of the Ministry in regard to the disposal of the Reserves, he had no hesitation in saying that their idea was that the money should be divided in the ratio of population on the same principle as was done in the School Act, and given to the respective counties to be appropriated by them to whatever purposes authorized by law they might think proper; they might thus devote the money to education or any other purpose they pleased. In regard to life-interests it was admitted on all hands that these would be preserved, but the ministry had resolved to proceed on the principle of recognizing only life-interests existing prior to the Imperial Act, since ... existed that the Imperial Act protected. Mr. Langton had asked why the Government did not dissolve Parliament at once, so soon as they arrived at the conclusion that a dissolution was necessary. There would not have been the slightest hesitation in taking that course in ordinary circumstances, but another session was requisite in order to bring the Franchise Act into operation.<sup>27</sup> Had government dissolved before, there must have been another dissolution immediately on the Franchise bill.<sup>28</sup>

MR. DIXON attacked the policy of the Government, and said that the present Parliament had been elected more with a view to the settlement of the Reserves than on any other question.<sup>29</sup>

MR. PRES. EX. COUN. ROLPH replied to some of the arguments adduced by Mr. Langton, and attempted to show that a mere resolution of the House, affirming that the Representation was defective, did not necessitate a dissolution, or prevent further legislation in the same way as the actual passage of the Representation and Franchise Bills, of the last session. Although they passed such a resolution, the duty still remained which had been imposed upon them by the country, of legislating with such materials as they had until these materials should be made better.<sup>30</sup> Notwithstanding the strictures of the member for Peterboro, there was clearly a great difference between a bill which had merely passed that House, and one that has become law. The House had previously passed several representative bills which had failed; but this certainly imposed no obligation to stop legislation.<sup>31</sup> He then vindicated his course in reading so many extracts from newspapers, last evening, embodying the views of members of this House and influential politicians, in order to defend himself as a member of the government, against the imputations of those who had chosen to change their opinions. Mr. Langton further observed that they ought always



to have a Parliament capable of legislating and that it was a constitutional point which he was surprised had not struck him, (Dr. Rolph) as bearing against his position. But he would ask in what position was the country between a dissolution and the re-assembling of Parliament? Was not the crown, with the aid of its officers, still bound in those circumstances, to carry on the business of the Government? Dr. Rolph then defended the Government in connection with the delay which had occurred in the assembling of Parliament.<sup>32</sup> It was a mistake to suppose the difficulty now felt arose from the policy of the government--it would be much more easy for the government to go on with the business of the Legislature. The real difficulty was to be found in the extension of popular liberties as the consequence of the measures of the administration.<sup>33</sup> At the time when it would have been necessary to summon Parliament, to allow of its meeting in February, he firmly believed that the Imperial Parliament would consummate the legislation of this House in reference to the Legislative Council. And if the Parliament had been convened in February,<sup>34</sup> he must have confessed that he expected immediate action in England on the Legislative Council, and it would have been immediately and justly said on the other side, why not wait for that change.<sup>35</sup> It would have been alleged by the opposition, that the Government had taken that course on purpose to lose the Legislative Bill. In present circumstances they were bound to bow with cheerful submission to the necessity arising from the war, which had prevented the Legislative Council measure being consummated.<sup>36</sup> For his part he did not think he could properly have asked the ministry in England to risk the fate of Europe for the sake of a change in this country of the character of that in question. He had no doubt however, that in spite of the delay, that which the House had asked would at last be given, by the Imperial Government, with the readiness already shown in making other concessions. At any rate the ministry must comfort themselves with the conclusion that if they had asked otherwise than they had done, they would have been exposed to still more formidable, because more just charges from their opponents.<sup>37</sup> As regarded the statements made by Ministers at dinners, in the West,<sup>38</sup> he affirmed that when he had travelled through Upper Canada last summer the question of time never came up in connection with secularization<sup>39</sup>.

MR. BROWN wished to lead the discussion from the details already discussed to a wider field. He wanted to show why he wanted the amendments, the effect of which all understood to be a vote of non-confidence in the ministry, to pass the House. He wished for this purpose to compare the promises of hon. members opposite with their performances since they made them. He had always contended that it was impossible for the present ministry to fulfil their pledges--that the members for Huron and Norfolk, who every body knew had been in extreme opposition to the views of their present colleges (sic) from Lower Canada could not work with those gentlemen for common objects. He did not, however, when he first came to Parliament desire to oust those gentlemen from their seats, and, therefore, he had last session voted against the amendments to the address; but he could not at that time have supposed, that ministers at the end of one session would have found themselves in their present position, totally deserted by the crowds who had worshipped them, and obliged for want of other aid to do the business of defending themselves. Last session they had the majority in the first division of 44, to 17; now they were on the very verge of destruction; not a single member rising to defend them, and even the mover of their own address rather excusing and so blaming rather than praising them.--The cause of the change was easily traced to the conduct of the ministry themselves. The Lower Canadian view of their conduct had already been discussed

by members from that part of the Province; he would proceed to consider it from the point of sight of the Upper Canadian liberals. He held in his hand a "platform" signed by Mr. Christie, one of the makers of the present ministry. He had no desire to speak disrespectfully (sic) of that gentleman, for he believed that he, and several others, voted with the ministry from the sincere conviction that they would redeem their pledges, and he for one was quite ready to cease the war between him and them, since they had taken the position where he wished to see them. However the first thing on this platform (sic) was the secularization of the Reserves. Now he set aside all that the President of the Council had said about the Kings and Queens of England for the sake of considering the conduct of the Canadian government, and contended that if the people of Upper Canada thought it would be best to postpone the settlement of this question, they yet could place no trust in the present government. The question first on the platform was made by the hon. member for Norfolk the great question on which the election turned. In a speech of the hon. member reported in his own paper, the Norfolk Messenger, he stated that a bill to secularize the Reserves would be brought in immediately on the meeting of Parliament. In the same paper it was stated that Mr. Hincks had pledged himself in Oxford to secularize the Reserves by bill.<sup>40</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS--As far as he was concerned the statement was perfectly false.<sup>41</sup>

MR. PRES. EX. COUN. ROLPH--As far as he was concerned they were perfectly untrue.<sup>42</sup>

MR. BROWN, Well they were a most extraordinary ministry, there was not one of them who had not been repeatedly misunderstood by their own friends, and the Postmaster General never had a speech properly reported yet; but he cares not whether the statements in these papers were true or not. Either they were, and ministers had broken their promises, or they were not, and then by putting such statements forth, or causing others to do so, they had wilfully deceived their constituents; but for such statements now declared false, the member for Norfolk well knew he would never have been elected. Now as to their fulfilment of these promises, though the late ministry had been broken up by the clamour of the members now representing Huron and Norfolk, because they would not secularize the Reserves by bill, the present ministry had not advanced one step further than they, that was to say beyond the carrying the address to Her Majesty. Nor had they shown any desire to accomplish the object in other ways. If they had, would they not have dealt with the 350,000 acres, ... [which] he had last session shewn, had been improperly reserved, and which they had entirely in their own hands (sic) to deal with as they pleased. Another plank in the platform was no separate (sic) schools, and on this points (sic) far from making any reform, they had actually carried the separate (sic) school system further than it was before. Returning to the Reserves, he expressed an opinion that the application of the Canadian ministry to Lord Stanley's Government for power to legislate, was made in the expectation that it would be rejected, and that the news of its being granted deeply chagrined the hon. gentlemen opposite. At any rate when they had not the power they asked for, it must have been at least expected that they would legislate at once, in accordance with their promises. How often had the[y] said that the very peace of the country depended upon the settlement of the very question which now that it was in their own hand they postponed. As to this postponement, it was clear from the statement of Mr. Sicotte, that, but for the secret being forced from them, the country would have known nothing of it till Parliament ... [met].<sup>43</sup>

MR. SICOTTE here stated the circumstances of this affair much as he had done on Friday evening.<sup>44</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS remarked that what was desired was that Mr. Sicotte should assume the responsibility of taking office before he communicated with his constituents. He himself desired to see if he could be elected before he took office, there was no precedent for anything so extraordinary. Had he accepted (sic) office he might have gone to his constituents and told them the truth at once.<sup>45</sup>

MR. SICOTTE, the facts were not as now stated by the Inspector General. The request to be allowed to explain his position to his constituents was fully refused, and he must censure the hon. gentleman for using his name in connection with statements which were not in accordance with what took place, the question of his acceptance of office was not put at all, the answer was that the ministry must have time to prepare before making known their plans.<sup>46</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD said that if Mr. Sicotte had desired leave to consult his constituents before taking office, it was not so unprecedented as the Inspector General said. In Sir Charles Bagot's time, when Mr. Hincks was first Inspector General, he Mr. Sherwood had accepted office on the express written condition that he should be allowed to consult his constituents in a public meeting or otherwise. This was assented to. A meeting was held; resolutions passed approving of his acceptance of office, and he took his seat by the side of the Inspector General in the Executive Council.<sup>47</sup>

MR. BROWN cared nothing for the understanding between these gentlemen, what he wished to impress on the House was that the gentleman was desired to go to his constituents and allow them to elect him on pledges, which he knew he could not fulfil.<sup>48</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS on the contrary he had expressly stated on Friday evening that the gentleman if he went back to his constituents must be elected free of all pledges.<sup>49</sup>

MR. SICOTTE made some remark which did not reach us.<sup>50</sup>

MR. BROWN--At any rate the organs of the ministry were for months after proclaiming that immediate secularization was to have taken place. He had himself first directed attention to the change in the ministerial intentions in the Globe last October, when his statement was at once declared to be one of the false stories of the member for Kent, and that idea was propagated by the whole ministerial press for weeks after, till the Pilot was authorized to state the fact. Even then the announcement was felt to be so damaging, that letters were at once written by the members for Norfolk, Oxford, and Huron, and published throughout the country, to counteract the effect. The honble member for Norfolk now said that the whole cause of the postponement was the extension of popular liberty; but that honble gentleman should remember that three reasons had been given--this constitutional one by himself; the Governor General, by Mr. Cameron, at Perth, and the alleged fact put forward by Mr. Hincks, that Lower Canada had not been consulted on the subject. As to the last objection, he would ask whether the ministry had not constantly maintained that Lower Canada was with them on this point? As to the speech at Perth, though he denied it, it had been well shown by the member for Simcoe that his explanation was quite absurd. Nor was that speech the only manner in which the statements it contained had been put forward. The honble member for Norfolk had in his letter said that the Governor General would [not] consent to legis-



lation, in the present position of things--that if they had insisted "the ministry must have resigned," and that then "the tories would have come in." He believed there was not a man in the House who did not believe this to be the true reason; but was it right for a constitutional ministry to take such ground? Here was the honble member for Huron telling fifty people at Perth what was the opinion of the Governor General--that was the idea that gentleman entertained of his position. Such conduct was most damaging to the reputation of the Governor, and ministers must have known that it would be so. But to return to the reason given by the honble member for Norfolk, he asked if that was the real reason why it was not found out before ministers went to Upper Canada. But had not the honble member heard this very reason confuted by the honble Inspector General. Surely the statement of the latter gentleman, that the house was incompetent, was not a mere trick--surely so great a constitutional authority as the former would not have allowed his colleague to make such a statement without the authority of the cabinet, and yet that gentleman came there and tried to amuse the house with talk about more obligations, public liberties, &c. He and his colleagues had kept the whole thing snug in their own power till within twenty-four hours [of] when the law compelled them to assemble Parliament, and then turned round and said, "Oh, how gladly would we secularize, but the constitution will not permit us." Yet with this difficulty of the constitution staring them in the face, these same gentlemen had passed a franchise law, not to come into operation till 1855. How happened the Cabinet to be constitutional if the Parliament were not. They professed to derive their power from the house, and yet they performed all the functions of a constitutional ministry, while they talked of the unconstitutionality of the house by whose will they sat. They could issue millions of money to a humbug company of their own, and yet could come down and say it is quite constitutional to legislate on this or that measure because we give you leave, but anything the country needs will be quite unconstitutional. The honble member proceeded to comment on Dr. Rolph's speech of yesterday. He was perfectly horrified at the manner in which the honble member had attempted to garble extracts from the "Examiner" and "Globe," and that was the only way he could express himself at such conduct. He was prepared for much, but certainly he never expected that. The honble member had attempted to read the "Globe" to make it prove the very reverse of that which it did really. The article condemned the government for postponing the secularization of the Reserves, yet the honble member wanted to make the "Globe" say that postponement would increase the chances of secularization. The real argument of the "Globe" was that although voluntaries might be on the increase in Upper Canada, the government wanted to make the question of secularization cover their own jobbing, and corruption, and to say to the people that they could not have secularization unless they were content to take it in connection with the ministry and their misdeeds. The govt. delayed the appeal to the people and yet would not proceed to legislation. That was an injury to the country. He understood that there were three bills before the House to increase banking facilities, which the business of the country very much needed, and which were needed to aid in the development of the resources of the country. Yet such things were of no importance to hon. gentlemen opposite provided they could only be kept in power--do that and the interests of the country might be sent adrift. He would next examine the platform and the promises of the parties who made the present ministry in Upper Canada, and on the strength of which they obtained power. Had the representations of the platform makers not been made to the people of Upper Canada, gentlemen opposite could never have obtained power. Yet how had they been kept? Almost every one of them had been falsified.

Here the hon. member read over the items of the platform and dwelt on them in detail. First there were the rectories, these they were pledged to abolish by bill. What was done? A humbug law suit got up against the Bishop of Toronto. Then came sectarian education. The platform makers promised non-sectarian schools; but the ministry gave an extension of sectarian schools. This he looked upon as the worst fault the government had committed in politics. He would rather give up all the Clergy Reserves to the Roman Catholic or any other church than have the youth of the country educated to sectarian differences. Then came representation based on population. The platform makers promised this; but he found the reformers in that house voting against it, and the conservatives, the old fogies, voting for it. The position of parties had strangely altered on that point, the conservatives had adopted liberal views, while the pretended reformers had gone backwards. He believed also that representation based on population was approved of the French of Lower Canada, until they found the tide of population turning against them, then they suddenly changed their tactics and said that it would break up the union if the representation were now based on representation (sic). He remembered that the present Provincial Secretary (Mr. Chauveau) had in Toronto put a motion on the Journals of the House, in favour of representation by population. He believed the reciprocity treaty a good thing, but the ministry deserved no credit for it. It was obtained by the head of the Executive.<sup>51</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS did not know what the hon. member meant. The ministry had never attempted to claim credit for obtaining the treaty. It was obtained by the Governor General, acting as the special commissioner of the British Government.<sup>52</sup>

MR. BROWN proceeded to comment on the last item of the Clear Grit Platform, namely--Retrenchment. What had they done with respect to that? For himself he had never made any rash promises in this respect, and did not say much upon the point because he knew how difficult retrenchment was--at least some kinds. The hon. member for Frontenac introduced last session a bill to render the independence of parliament more perfect, and to prevent the corruption of its members, but this pure reform ministry would not consent to that; and they took the bill out of the hon. member's hands and destroyed it. Another bill to fix the salaries of employ es of the government by law so as to place the temptation of corruption out of the way of the executive, these purists would have nothing to do with, and would not allow to be passed. A bill to give them the power of increasing the salaries of judges to any amount under £50 they had passed; and they were the first government that he knew that had ever claimed the power to be able to tamper with the independence of the bench. The hon. Inspector General had had a surplus revenue of upwards of four hundred thousand pounds accumulating for years, and this he had carried from bank to bank, and used for the purposes of corruption, and enriching himself. In truth, on almost every great question had the pretended reform government belied the principles on which it took office, and fulfilled (sic) its pledges. It made the very name of reform a by word of contempt in Upper Canada, and the administration itself was everywhere [l]ooked on with scorn. Turning to the reform supporters of the Government he asked them ... [what] they had gained by their votes in its favor--votes which had dragged their principles through the mud. The hon. member next came to Mr. Hincks' connection with the Grand Trunk Railway, going over the history of his first connection with it--his insolent letter to Sir John Pakington refusing imperial aid, his having £50,000 of Grand Trunk Stock in his name, the falsification of the promises of the great things the contractors could do, and contended that Canadians would much better have made

their own road. Next he came to the Inspector General's budget of last year contending the (sic) he was three hundred pounds (sic) out of his calculation on this year's revenue a thing which he said was not creditable to so great a financier. Taking up the Grand Trunk proprietors he said that he regretted to see names of Canadian ministers, and a report of Lord Elgin on the country, attached to a document which promised Grand Trunk subscribers 11½ per cent. After condemning the ministry for allowing the Americans to build the Sault Ste. Marie Canal before Canada had done hers. He sat down after speaking about two hours and a half.<sup>53</sup>

On the subject of the Grand Trunk Railroad he [Mr. Brown] was caught fabricating stories to its prejudice, and called to account on the spot. The report of the London Directors he insisted on misreading and misrepresenting till called to account when he was obliged to confess that the story sent forth by the Globe was false; attributing the fact to his inability to understand the report.<sup>54</sup>

MR. GALT said he thought it proper to make some reply to the remarks by the hon. member for Kent on the Grand Trunk Railway. Hon. gentlemen might express some surprise at his undertaking the defence of the Grand Trunk Company after the position he had occupied in 1852. He had nothing to add nor to retract from the statements he had then made; but the reason that induced him to withdraw his opposition, was (while he saw the determination of the government to persist in the scheme,) the prospect of securing a bridge across the St. Lawrence at Montreal, and a continuous line of railway under one management, westward of Montreal to Sarnia. The bridge he considered of the utmost provincial importance, and a contin[u]ous railway, under one management would afford the public greater accomodation, at less price than several lines possibly could. He further contended that under (sic) the circumstances the present policy of the Grand Trunk Company was the best that could be adopted. It was impossible to deny that the position of the money market in England rendered it very hard to obtain money for any new undertaking. That fact might be learned on any exchange on this continent or in England.

With respect to the issue of Debentures by the Government in favor of the Company, he would state that the total amount of Provincial Debentures forwarded to their Shareholders by the Grand T. Company, was £1,811,500, which were sent under authority of Railway Guarantee Act, viz:--

St. Lawrence & Atlantic.	£467,500	
Less issued before Amalgamation.....	£400,000	
	£	67,500
Quebec & Richmond.....	£	250,000
	£	317,500
Grand T. R., distance 345 miles, at £3,000 per mile.....	£	1,035,000
Trois Pistoles Line, distance 153 miles, at £3,000.....	£	459,000
	£	1,811,500
One-half has been sent to London Agents, or.....	£	905,750



Comprehending Balance due to the	
St. Lawrence & Atlantic.....£	67,500
Quebec & Richmond.....	250,000
Grand T., and Trois Pistoles.....	588,250
£	<hr/> 950,750 (sic) <hr/>

The remaining half has not yet been sent to London. About £300,000 of those sent, have been issued to the public; being less than was due for the St. Lawrence & Atlantic and Quebec & Richmond Road. The remaining £600,000 will be issued as they are paid for in full; the proceeds remaining at the credit of the Province till the Company are entitled to the same. The total amount of Provincial aid under all Acts forming the G.T. Company, is £1,811,500, for which the Province will hold a first mortgage over an expenditure of £9,500,000; the St. Lawrence Bridge, and Toronto and Sarnia Road and the Grand Junction Line, making together about £3,200,000, being undertaken without any Government aid. The Provincial advance will, therefore, be only 24 per cent instead of 50 per cent under the Railway Guarantee Act, and 34 per cent under the Grand Trunk Act. The principle has been admitted by the government in the case of every railway company in the Province, of permitting the negotiation of government debentures at the period and in the manner most advantageous to the company, subject to the condition that the proceeds thereof remain at the credit of the Province, until the companies become entitled to the same by the progress of their works. This course has been taken towards the Grand Trunk Railway. Also, in their case it was the more necessary, because the debentures were by the companies (sic) prospectus, in fact, sold to the parties before becoming Shareholders, and it was impossible to so divide amongst them the sums provided by the Act to be issued--£40,000 in every £100,000 expended. The whole amount must, therefore, have remained unappropriated, until the completion of the entire works, a course that would have deprived the company of that provincial credit, which it was designed by the legislature to give them, and which had become the more important, owing to the change in the money market, arising from the disturbed state of Europe. He believed the company would be able to carry out their engagements and that the contractors were men of the very highest standing, notwithstanding that the hon. member for Kent seemed disposed to sneer at them.<sup>55</sup>

MR. BROWN never cast any doubt on the respectability of the contractors; all he doubted were the fabulous stories told by the Inspector General.<sup>56</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS would like to know what the hon. gentleman called fabulous stories. He had always given out that the gentlemen possessed the highest standing and were very rich; but did the hon. member suppose that they were going to use their realized capital, to draw it from real estate or other investments for the sake of carrying out undertakings in Canada?<sup>57</sup>

MR. GALT said that by these new arrangements of the company he had no doubt they would be able to complete their line from Montreal to Stratford with the bridge, without delay. At Stratford the line would join with Great Western.<sup>58</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD asked if a contract of the hon. member had not been increased in price by amalgamation with the Grand Trunk?<sup>59</sup>

MR. GALT, altered, but not increased in rate; that is, a better kind of work is contracted for.<sup>60</sup>

MR. ROBINSON asked if the hon. member meant to say that the line from Stratford to Sarnia was to be abandoned altogether, or whether the Grand Trunk Company were not legally bound to build it?<sup>61</sup>

MR. GALT held that the Grand Trunk Company were bound to build that portion of the road, but that they proposed to build the other portion first. He had no doubt the Grand Trunk Company would never be satisfied without a Western extension of their own.<sup>62</sup>

MR. CRAWFORD as the reporter understood, said he had learned there were 7,000 men employed on the Grand Trunk road between Toronto and Montreal.<sup>63</sup>

MR. LAURIN defended the position of the ministry. He admitted that they might have faults but did not think that the country would gain any advantage by exchanging them for gentlemen opposite, or that the Clergy Reserves or Seigniorial questions would be any nearer a settlement by such a course.<sup>64</sup>

DR. LATERRIERE made a general attack on the ministry and expressed his determination to vote against them.<sup>65</sup>

MR. SICOTTE said some words to the effect that he believed the only proper mode to settle the Clergy Reserves dispute, was to secularize them.<sup>66</sup>

Mr. Hartman's motion was put.<sup>67</sup>

(28)

*And the Question being put on the Amendment to the proposed Amendment to the fourth paragraph of the Main Question; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Brown, Fergusson, Hartman, Jobin, Langton, Lyon, McDonald of CORNWALL, Mackenzie, Marchildon, Mattice, Rose, Sanborn, Sicotte, White, Wright of East Riding of YORK, and Young.--(16.)*

NAYS.

*Messieurs Badgley, Burnham, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Clapham, Crawford, DeLong, Dixon, Attorney General Drummond, Dubord, Dumoulin, Egan, Fortier, Gamble, Gouin, Hincks, Lacoste, LaTerrière, Laurin, LeBlanc, Lemieux, Macdonald of KINGSTON, Sir A.N. MacNab, Malloch, McDougall, Mongenais, Morin, Solicitor General Morrison, Murney, Paige, Patrick, Polette, Poulin, Prince, Ridout, Robinson, Rolph, Seymour, Shaw, Sherwood, Smith of DURHAM, Stevenson, Street, Stuart, Taché, Tessier, Turcotte, Valois, Varin, Willson, and Wright of West Riding of YORK.--(54.)*

*So it passed in the Negative.*

*And the Question on the Amendment to the fourth paragraph of the Main Question being again proposed;*

*Mr. Sicotte moved in amendment to the said proposed Amendment, seconded by Mr. Cauchon, That the words "or one for the immediate settlement of the Clergy Reserves" be added at the end thereof;*

MR. BROWN on this being done said that he would withdraw the amendment of which he had given notice.<sup>68</sup>

Mr. Sicotte's motion was handed to the Speaker, who read it, and was about to put it to the vote, when a curious scene occurred.<sup>69</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE rose hurriedly and exclaimed that it was near midnight, and the House should adjourn, and that if no other would, he would adjourn himself! Suiting the action to the word, the member for Haldimand (sic) seized his hat, just at the very moment the vote was expected to be taken, and rushed out of

the house!<sup>70</sup>

The scene created not a little amusement and some speculation as to the real cause of so adroit an escape from a troublesome vote<sup>71</sup>.

(28)

*And a Debate arising thereupon;*

*Mr. Fortier moved, seconded by Mr. Turcotte, and the Question being put, That the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow, the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

(29)

YEAS.

*Messieurs Chapais, Dumoulin, Fortier, Hartman, Lacoste, Laurin, Lemieux, McDonald of CORNWALL, Mattice, McDougall, Patrick, Poulin, Taché, Tessier, Turcotte, White, Willson, and Wright of East Riding of YORK.--(18.)*

NAYS.

*Messieurs Badgley, Brown, Burnham, Cameron, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Clapham, Crawford, Delong, Dixon, Attorney General Drummond, Dubord, Fergusson, Fournier, Gamble, Gouin, Hincks, Jobin, Langton, LaTerrière, LeBlanc, Lyon, Macdonald of KINGSTON, Sir A.N. MacNab, Malloch, Marchildon, Mongenais, Morin, Solicitor General Morrison, Murney, Paige, Polette, Ridout, Robinson, Rolph, Rose, Seymour, Shaw, Sherwood, Sicotte, Smith of DURHAM, Stevenson, Street, Stuart, Valois, Varin, Wright of West Riding of YORK, and Young.--(50.)*

*So it passed in the Negative.*

*And the Question being again proposed, That the words "or one for the immediate settlement of the Clergy Reserves" be added at the end of the proposed Amendment to the fourth paragraph of the Main Question;*

*And a further Debate arising thereupon;*

MR. CARTIER: La question maintenant soumise à la chambre, en réalité ne consiste pas dans les amendements à la réponse au discours du trône proposés par les honorables membres pour Montmorency et Saint-Hyacinthe, (MM. Cauchon et Sicotte). Nous venons d'entendre la déclaration des ministres annonçant la dissolution prochaine de cette chambre. D'ici à quelques semaines nous aurons probablement à nous retrouver en présence de nos constituants.

Il s'agit donc de savoir si nous devons congédier les ministres en adoptant des amendements qui équivaldront à un vote de non-confiance, et nous exposer à une administration composée d'adversaires politiques, ou, s'il n'est pas plus avantageux pour la solution de la question seigneuriale et dans l'intérêt des censitaires, que les membres du parti libéral se présentent aux électeurs sous l'existence et avec l'influence politique des membres actuels de l'administration, dont les vues sont connues et dont les antécédents offrent une garantie aux censitaires que cette question ne sera pas résolue de manière à les ruiner.

L'on doit voir qu'il ne s'agit point d'une question de délai pour la solution de cette question puisque, si les amendements sont adoptés, et si nous devons subir les lenteurs et les accidents qui accompagnent ordinairement la formation et les débuts de toute nouvelle administration, le délai que souffrira le règlement de la question seigneuriale devra être beaucoup plus long que celui que l'on reproche au ministère. Les membres de l'administration ont déclaré que les élections auront lieu prochainement et que nous aurons, prochainement aussi, une session. Qu'il se forme une administration nouvelle, cette administration ne pourra-t-elle pas reculer autant que possible l'époque de la prochaine session de manière à prolonger son existence jusqu'à la fin de 1855, et, par ce moyen, retarder indéfiniment la solution de la question seigneuriale?



La présente question peut se résumer ainsi: le pays a d'habiles ministres, et ils ont bien administré; d'un autre côté, la question seigneuriale et celle des réserves ne peuvent être résolues à cette session, mais elles le seront prochainement; on le sait, mais on cherche un moyen de faire tomber le ministère. Donc, si cette législation ne peut avoir lieu par l'effet du vote de censure que l'on veut provoquer par cet amendement, on aura le droit de dire que les membres de l'opposition n'ont voulu qu'une chose: arriver eux-mêmes au pouvoir!

Et si l'amendement est adopté, si l'on force par là l'administration à résigner, et qu'on empêche la législation sur ces matières, on est donc à blâmer, on est donc coupable aux yeux du pays!

Cependant, tandis que les membres de l'opposition insistent à ce point sur le règlement immédiat de ces questions, en est-il un seul qui ait dit de quelle manière et suivant quel mode ce règlement devait être fait? On se plaint de ce que le ministère ne législate pas, est-on prêt soi-même à législater!

L'honorable membre pour Montmorency n'est ni sérieux ni sincère dans l'amendement qu'il propose. Tous les membres de cette chambre savent combien cet honorable membre a été sur cette matière indifférent et inactif dans la dernière session, lorsque le bill seigneurial a été discuté et passé par cette chambre. Il est vrai que l'honorable membre a voté pour le bill, mais pourquoi l'a-t-il fait? Parce qu'il y était forcé et ne pouvait faire autrement. Il était compris par le plus grand nombre des amis de la mesure que les sympathies de l'honorable membre étaient plutôt contre le bill que pour le bill, plutôt en faveur des seigneurs qu'en faveur des censitaires. Cette chambre comprend parfaitement et le pays comprendra comme elle, que l'honorable membre, par son amendement, ne désire pas tant la solution de la question seigneuriale que la chute du présent ministère.

L'honorable membre a parlé de sincérité; mais vraiment ses assurances de sincérité ne peuvent donner le change à qui que ce soit. Est-ce qu'il peut avoir bonne grâce, à propos de la question seigneuriale, à mettre sa sincérité en parallèle avec celle de l'honorable procureur-général pour le Bas-Canada (M. Drummond), qui a travaillé comme ou (*sic*) ne peut plus pour obtenir la passation de sa mesure? avec celle de l'honorable commissaire des terres (M. Morin), dont l'intelligence, l'honnêteté et la sincérité sont proverbiales? avec celle de l'honorable inspecteur-général (M. Hincks), dont le zèle, l'activité, l'influence personnelle et les qualités financières ont tant contribué à faire voter par les membres du Haut-Canada l'appropriation nécessaire, à même les fonds de la province, pour payer l'indemnité des seigneurs, dans le but de faciliter la commutation et de dégrever d'autant les censitaires?

Pour prouver que l'honorable membre pour Montmorency n'est pas sincère dans le motif de son amendement, examinons par quel membre il est secondé et par quelle influence il devra être guidé pour déterminer cette question. Il a pour seconneur l'honorable membre de Saguenay (M. de Laterrière), un ... seigneur, et l'un de ceux qui se sont efforcés de mettre obstacle à la solution de la question durant la dernière session parlementaire. Il a de plus, en ce moment, pour alliés et suppôts, des adversaires acharnés que nous avons eu à combattre durant la dernière session, et qui ont voté contre le bill seigneurial, principalement parce que l'indemnité devait être payée aux seigneurs à la décharge des censitaires, et à même les fonds publics, au lieu de l'être par les censitaires. C'est ici le lieu de se rappeler une motion d'amendement faite durant la dernière session par l'honorable représentant de Kingston (M. Macdonald) maintenant un des alliés futurs de l'honorable député de Montmorency, pour le règlement de la question seigneuriale; cette motion était conçue dans les termes suivants:

"L'honorable M. Macdonald a proposé en amendement à icelle, secondé par M. Langton, que tous les mots après 'qu'il,' jusqu'à la fin de la résolution, soient retranchés, de manière à insérer les mots 'est inexpédient et injuste pour le peuple du Canada de payer à même le revenu consolidé de cette province, une partie quelconque de cette indemnité des seigneurs, et que la dite indemnité devrait être payée par la section de la province qui retirera un avantage immédiat de la mesure proposée,' en leur place.

Et la question ayant été mise sur l'amendement; la chambre s'est divisée: et les noms ayant été demandés, ils ont été pris comme suit:

Pour:--MM. Badgley, Burnham, Crawford, Dixon, Langton, Macdonald de Kingston, Malloch, Marchildon, Ridout, Robinson, Seymour, Shaw, Wil[l]son, et Wrig[h]t de la division ouest d'York."

(Journal de l'assemblée, 1852-3, copie française, p. 786-7.)

Les membres qui ont voté pour la motion qui précède ont tous ou pour la plupart voté contre le bill seigneurial durant la dernière session.

Que l'honorable député de Montmorency réussisse sur cet amendement et occasionne par ce moyen la chute du ministère, il devra avoir pour alliés, à l'effet de résoudre la question seigneuriale, tous les adversaires de la mesure et surtout de l'indemnité que cette mesure tendait à faire payer à même les fonds de la province, au lieu de l'imposer aux censitaires. Les alliés futurs de l'honorable représentant de Montmorency sont donc les ennemis des censitaires, puisqu'ils voudraient faire peser sur eux cette indemnité. D'ailleurs, il ne faut pas perdre de vue que la convention anti-seigneuriale de Montréal insiste particulièrement sur une appropriation des deniers de la province pour faciliter l'abolition de la tenure seigneuriale. Ce qui précède établit jusqu'à quel point l'honorable membre pour Montmorency et ses alliés sont sérieux et sincères, lorsqu'ils nous parlent de la solution de la question seigneuriale. Que la Providence veuille garder les censitaires d'aucune mesure qui devra résoudre cette question dans le sens de ceux qui s'y sont opposés durant la session dernière! Cette chambre se rappelle que, durant la session dont je parle, tous les membres favorables au bill seigneurial ont été stigmatisés et calomniés comme s'ils eussent été des voleurs de grand chemin. Malgré cela, l'honorable député de Montmorency, qui a un journal influent à son service, n'a pas fait usage de sa plume pour défendre la mesure, tant il était indifférent à sa passation!

Il est nécessaire de dire maintenant un mot de la position critique et extraordinaire de l'honorable représentant de St. Hyacinthe. D'après les explications qui ont été données de part et d'autre sur le refus d'acceptation de la place qui lui avait été offerte, il est juste de dire que si l'honorable membre mérite d'être excusé de n'avoir pas accepté la charge en question, il n'est pas également excusable d'essayer, par l'amendement qu'il propose, de renverser le ministère, et de faire par là un grand tort au parti libéral dont il est membre. Il y a cette différence à remarquer entre l'honorable membre pour Montmorency et l'honorable membre pour St. Hyacinthe: c'est que le premier n'est pas inconséquent dans son opposition au ministère puisqu'il a toujours lutté contre l'administration et qu'il serait prêt à former une alliance ministérielle avec nos ennemis politiques, tandis que l'honorable membre pour St. Hyacinthe prétend qu'il reste toujours dans le parti libéral et qu'il ne passe pas à l'ennemi!

L'honorable membre pour St. Hyacinthe ne comprend point la position ni la responsabilité de la position dans laquelle il se place en voulant renverser le ministère. Comme membre du parti libéral auquel il appartient, il a fort (sic) de faire une pareille tentative. Par l'amendement qu'il propose et par

sa conduite en ce moment, l'honorable représentant de St. Hyacinthe commet un pas de clerc (mistake), et si la méprise dans laquelle il tombe ne compromet point la bonté de ses intentions, il y a une chose qu'elle compromet, c'est la rectitude de son jugement. L'honorable membre de peut provoquer un vote de non-confiance dans l'administration sans être prêt à remplacer cette administration de quelque manière. Que l'honorable membre n'aille pas croire qu'il ait le droit de démolir, sans être tenu de réédifier. Aucun membre n'est justifiable de provoquer la chute d'un ministère, s'il n'est pas prêt et s'il n'a pas les moyens de former une autre administration. Celui qui renverse un ministère ne fait que la moitié de son oeuvre; il lui reste encore l'autre moitié, c'est-à-dire, le rétablissement de ce qu'il a renversé. L'on doit présumer que l'honorable membre, puisqu'il veut tenter le renversement de l'administration, est prêt ou doit être prêt à faire en sorte qu'elle soit remplacée; il ne peut échapper à cette conséquence de la position étrange qu'il s'est faite.

Maintenant, quels moyens a-t-il de réédifier un cabinet? Comme membre du parti libéral, l'honorable député doit nécessairement voir à trouver dans les rangs de ce même parti les éléments d'une administration qui ait quelque chance de vie. Mais l'honorable membre sait que cela lui est impossible. Il reste à l'honorable membre un autre moyen de reconstruire: par un ministère de coalition à l'aide de nos adversaires politiques. Mais, ici encore, l'honorable membre, s'il prétend continuer d'appartenir au parti libéral, ne peut songer à cet expédient; et d'ailleurs, les membres du parti conservateur dans cette chambre n'ont pas témoigné qu'ils accepteraient l'honorable membre pour adjoint ni fait voir qu'ils soient prêts à former ce ministère de coalition, sans compter qu'une combinaison pareille prouverait, dans le parti conservateur, faiblesse et impuissance à former une administration en accord avec ses principes politiques. Il resterait un troisième élément de réédification: ce serait une alliance entre l'honorable membre et le représentant de Kent (M. Brown.) Il est à croire que l'honorable membre a trop de sens pour s'attendre à l'approbation du Bas-Canada sur une alliance avec l'honorable député de Kent, cet homme dont les effusions anticatholiques sont si ex[c]entriques et si fréquentes!

Dans le cours des explications qu'il a données par rapport à lui-même, l'honorable membre a dit que s'il eut été dans la barque conduite par les ministres, il aurait employé ses efforts pour l'empêcher de sombrer afin d'arriver à terre; mais qu'étant sur le rivage, il n'était pas tenu de s'exposer à périr. La barque à laquelle l'honorable membre a fait allusion, est sans doute la barque de l'Etat, qui doit être gouvernée par quelques-uns. Puisqu'il veut maintenant faire sombrer la barque, tandis qu'il se tient au rivage, il aurait dû nous dire s'il était prêt à se risquer dans une autre barque qui louvoie en sens opposé dans le lointain, sous le commandement du brave chevalier d'Hamilton (Sir A. McNab), l'hon. membre trouvera sur ce vaisseau un équipage bien jovial et très prodigue de champagne, mais ayant peu de sympathie pour le pauvre censitaire. A une distance encore plus éloignée se trouve une autre barque qui navigue bien difficilement et dont le pilote est gravement atteint de jésuitophobie et de catholicophobie. Cette barque est celle de l'honorable représentant de Kent. Il est probable que l'honorable membre pour Saint-Hyacinthe ne se risquera point dans celle-là!

En résumé, la question seigneuriale ne pourrait être résolue d'une manière satisfaisante (sic) pour les censitaires sous les auspices d'une administration dépendante de l'influence de nos adversaires politiques et de celle de l'hon. représentant de Kent. L'hon. membre pour Saint-Hyacinthe doit comprendre cela.



Quant à l'honorable membre pour Montmorency, il est évident qu'il n'a d'autre but en proposant son amendement que celui de renverser l'administration, d'après la maxime usitée quelquefois: "ôte-toi de là que je m'y mette!"<sup>72</sup>

MR. YOUNG compared Upper Canada with Lower, and contended that the former was more progressive. The reasons that had kept Lower Canada back he ascribed to the commercial policy which had been pursued, and to the Seigniorial Tenure. He said he should vote for the amendment.<sup>73</sup>

After some remarks from MR. CAUCHON in reply to Mr. Cartier, the vote was taken<sup>74</sup>.

(29)

Mr. Lemieux moved, seconded by Mr. Turcotte, and the Question being put That the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow; the House divided:--And it passed in the Negative.

And the Question being put, That the words "or one for the immediate settlement of the Clergy Reserves" be added at the end of the proposed Amendment to the fourth paragraph of the Main Question; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--

YEAS.

Messieurs Badgley, Brown, Burnham, Cauchon, Clapham, Crawford, Dixon, Dubord, Fergusson, Gamble, Gouin, Hartman, Jobin, Lacoste, Langton, LaTerrière, LeBlanc, Lyon, McDonald of CORNWALL, Macdonald of KINGSTON, Sir A.N. MacNab, Malloch, Marchildon, Mattice, McDougall, Murney, Polette, Ridout, Robinson, Rose, Seymour, Shaw, Sherwood, Sicotte, Stevenson, Street, Stuart, Tessier, Valois, White, Wright of West Riding of YORK, and Young.--(42.)

(29-30)

NAYS.

Messieurs Cameron, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Delong, Attorney General Drummond, Dumoulin, Egan, Fortier, Fournier, Galt, Hincks, Laurin, Lemieux, Mongenais, Morin, Solicitor General Morrison, Paige, Patrick, Poulin, Prince, Rolph, Sanborn, Smith of DURHAM, Taché, Turcotte, Varin, and Wright of East Riding of YORK.--(29.)

So it was carried in the Affirmative.

(30)

And the Question being put on the Amendment to the fourth paragraph of the Main Question so amended; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down as in the last preceding division.

So it was carried in the Affirmative.

Then the Question upon the fourth paragraph of the Main Question so amended, being put, That this House learns with satisfaction that His Excellency having, during his recent visit to England, been honored by the Queen's command to endeavour to effect the settlement of various important questions bearing upon the interests of the British North American Provinces which had been long pending between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, proceeded to Washington, where, after frank discussion with the Authorities of the United States, he has been enabled to conclude a Treaty, which now awaits ratification, upon terms which, it is His Excellency's firm conviction, will prove in the highest degree advantageous to the Colonies generally, as well as to the United States; and that this House will give proper attention to a measure which may be introduced to give effect to that Treaty:

That this House sees with regret that His Excellency's Government do not intend to submit to the Legislature, during the present Session, a Bill for the immediate settlement of the Seigniorial Question, or one for the immediate

*settlement of the Clergy Reserves;*

*The House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down as in the last preceding division.*

*So it was carried in the Affirmative.*

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS asked for a postponement of the debate and adjournment till Thursday, in order to give the government time to determine on the course they would pursue<sup>75</sup>.

(30)

*On motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin, Ordered, That the further consideration of the remaining paragraphs of the Main Question be postponed until Thursday next.*

*Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin,  
The House adjourned until Thursday next.<sup>76</sup>*

FOOTNOTES: 20 JUNE 1854.

1. The following papers reported the exchange on this matter in identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854, MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard), and QUEBEC GAZETTE, 24 June 1854. The debate was also reported by GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
2. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
3. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
4. The following papers reported the debate in partially identical accounts: MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854, and MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard). The debate was also reported by: LA MINERVE, 27 June 1854 (which copied Le Canadien); and GLOBE, 29 June 1854. There were two telegraph reports (MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 June 1854 and PILOT, 22 June 1854) of the debate. The debate was noted by: PILOT, 23 June 1854; and NIAGARA MAIL, 28 June 1854. One telegraph report (PILOT, 22 June 1854) commented:

"The debate on the address was continued last evening in a very full house.

All the members were present during it, but Messrs. Christie (of Wentworth), Johnston, Leboutilier, McLachlan, Merritt, Smith, (of Frontenac), Terrill and Viger.

The galleries were crowded with strangers, and the utmost interest was manifested in the proceedings."

5. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
6. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
7. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
8. IBID.
9. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
10. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
11. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
12. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
13. IBID.
14. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
15. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
16. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
17. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
18. IBID.
19. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
20. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
21. IBID.
22. IBID.
23. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
24. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
25. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
26. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
27. GLOBE, 29 June 1854. The ellipses represent illegible words.
28. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
29. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
30. GLOBE, 29 June 1854. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854, noted that Dr. Rolph "was very indistinctly heard."
31. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
32. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
33. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
34. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
35. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.



36. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
37. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
38. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
39. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
40. IBID.
41. IBID.
42. IBID.
43. IBID.
44. IBID.
45. IBID.
46. IBID.
47. IBID.
48. IBID.
49. IBID.
50. IBID.
51. IBID.
52. IBID.
53. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854. TORONTO LEADER, 26 June 1854, said that Mr. Brown spoke for "three mortal hours." The telegraph report (PILOT, 22 June 1854) had it that the speech lasted "for upwards of two hours."
54. TORONTO LEADER, 26 June 1854.
55. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854.
56. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
57. IBID.
58. IBID.
59. IBID.
60. IBID.
61. IBID.
62. IBID.
63. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854.
64. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
65. IBID.
66. IBID.
67. IBID.
68. IBID.
69. NIAGARA MAIL, 28 June 1854.
70. IBID.
71. IBID.
72. LA MINERVE, 27 June 1854.
73. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854.
74. IBID.
75. IBID.
76. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 June 1854, noted that "the House adjourned at about 2 o'clock."



THURSDAY, 22 June 1854.

(30)

MR. SPEAKER informed the House, That the Serjeant-at-Arms had (with his approbation) appointed Farquhar McGillivray, Esquire, to act as his Deputy, during a temporary absence.

The moment the speaker took the chair, the guns were heard announcing the departure of His Excellency from the Government House.<sup>1</sup>

SIR A. MACNAB hereupon rose and asked if the rumour was true that Parliament was to be prorogued in a few minutes.<sup>2</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said yes.<sup>3</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN nodded his head.<sup>4</sup>

SIR A. MACNAB--In order afterwards to dissolve it?<sup>5</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS and MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN again nodded.<sup>6</sup>

SIR A. MACNAB--Without altering the Franchise Bill so as to make it come into immediate operation?<sup>7</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS--Of course.<sup>8</sup>

Then, said SIR A. MACNAB, I protest in the name of the opposition against our being broken up in such a manner! I declare on behalf of myself and<sup>9</sup> my friends near me, that we are quite ready to pass that Bill, in order to make it available at the next election. We are also ready to pass the supplies, or anything else to enable the Government to be carried on in the best manner. It is not necessary for me to remark, on this proropation (sic), without affording the country the means of understanding its reasons. We can only say that we are ready to return a respectful reply to the speech, and if the good sense of the House led it to insert in that reply sentiments not in accordance with those of gentlemen opposite, the latter ought not to have shrunk from the responsibility of presenting it, and thus avoid that of advising His Excellency to do what he took to be a breach of the Constitution. They thereby prevented the House from laying its views before the Governor General. I think it necessary to express these sentiments in order that the truth should be known.<sup>10</sup>

From all sides of the House there were universal cheers on ... [this] announcement<sup>11</sup>.

MR. MACKENZIE entirely agreed with the learned and gallant knight, (loud cries of hear, hear.) The house [he said] has placed on the Statute book, a bill to which it had given an unanimous assent to give a wider expression to the popular opinion of the country. This was not a measure of party or class, but concerned all, and he would just read the preamble to show how necessary and just it was thought. He read as follows--"Whereas it is right to extend the elective Franchise to certain classes of persons who are now excluded from voting at elections of members of the legislative Assembly."<sup>12</sup>

Here the messenger from the Council appeared at the bar, and the speaker read the notice to prorogue.<sup>13</sup>

(30)

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House the following Letter:--

Government House, Quebec, 22nd June, 1854.



*Sir,--I am directed by the Governor General, to inform you that it is His Excellency's intention to proceed to the Legislative Council Chamber to-day, at three o'clock, to prorogue the Session of the Legislature.*

*I have the honor to be, Sir,*

*Your most obedient humble Servant,*

*L. Oliphant.*

*The Honorable the Speaker  
of the Legislative Assembly.*

MR. MACKENZIE--There was no necessity for delay; the Bill in question could be passed immediately. The £10,000 Job Bill was passed through all its stages at once, and passing this Bill, would give the Franchise to 100,000 people. Would they dissolve before they had completed it? The Bill should be carried at once. (Great cheering through the House.)<sup>14</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD the SPEAKER here rose.<sup>15</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE said--a few minutes; give me a minute--(cheers, and cries of "go on.") The Speaker standing all the time. He asked if the Inspector-General, who had once so earnestly opposed his exclusion from the House, was now to deprive thousands of their political rights? Were the representatives of the people, too, to be driven from their seats like soldiers by a drill-sergeant in a garrison town? They had come to see the Public Accounts; where were they? The Treaty; what has become of it? To lower the Tariff; why is it not done? Was all information to be thus shut out from them though their table was furnished with a list of Reports which ought to be presented? (Burst of applause and cries of order.) As an old reformer, he cried shame on the Government! (Cries of hurrah!)<sup>16</sup> With violent gesticulation he again and again exclaimed, in voice heard above the din and confusion,--"Shame on them." "Shame on them." "Shame on them."<sup>17</sup>

While he was yet speaking the Black Rod made his three knocks at the door, and the Sergeant-at-arms came to the Bar of the House to communicate the fact. Then arose a perfect storm. Members insisted that the Black rod should remain at the door for a short space until the views of the members were expressed.<sup>18</sup>

From this point little or nothing further could be heard, I mean distinguished, so as to be understood.<sup>19</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE [continued:] (Shame on them; cries of go on.) What was to be said to the constituencies of this summary disposing of the house? He would move for a suspension of the rules, to enable him, seconded by Mr. White, to introduce, with a view to its immediate passage, a bill to carry the franchise extension law into immediate effect. Not a member would say no. We are all for it!<sup>20</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD the SPEAKER--That cannot be done, if any member objects to it.<sup>21</sup>

John A. Macdonald went over to speak to ... [Mr. Mackenzie]; but he still kept on amidst a scene of unparallelled confusion, and cries of "order," "go on" and cheers ironical and real.<sup>22</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE--The Governor General had declared in a late speech that the people of Canada were thoroughly loyal to the Queen: was this violent proceeding of his intended to increase their loyalty? Dare we not even reply to the remarks of a Governor about to leave us? Are we asked to act, and when ready and willing will he choke our deliberations? He said to us, "I recommend to

your consideration the passing of a law for bringing into early operation the Act of last Session which extends the Elective Franchise, in order that a constitutional expression of opinion may be obtained as speedily as possible under the system of representation recently established on the various important questions on which Legislation is required." Will he deprive our country of that constitutional power, violate the constitution, and avoid a session, mere[ly] because on two subjects long before us, a regret is expressed that he has made no suggestions? The ministers of 1848 went out on a direct vote of want of confidence, but the Governor did not therefor turn the legislature out of doors. England legislates for [us], and we have no representative there--shall injury and insult meet us here also? The Governor has just told us that he asks a supply of our money to enable him to govern. He is, it appears, to follow the bad example of former tyrants, and seize our money in mockery of law. Warm, kindly and affectionate hearts trust us here. Good men intreat Heaven to bless our Councils. We are a young and flourishing people: and at a time when strife and bloodshed are injuring older lands, shall our united exertions to attract capital and enterprize fail through the madness of our rulers? If reciprocity is good may not our dismissal lose for us that good? I am for sitting till five or six o'clock.<sup>23</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD, took the floor while Mackenzie prepared his motion.<sup>24</sup> [He] began to speak with great vehemence in the midst of great uproar, saying the house was quite ready to return a respectful answer.<sup>25</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE here walked with his motion to the speaker's chair.<sup>26</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD insisted on the right of the House to go on. There was, he said, no better defined principle than that it was the right of this branch of legislature to continue its discussion till it had done, and if any one from another branch had come with a message, he must wait the pleasure of the House. The confusion increased, and it was with the utmost difficulty that any thing he said could be heard, although he spoke at the top of his voice.<sup>27</sup>

MR. SHERWOOD here rose to a question of order--the message had been admitted without the consent of the house.<sup>28</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD, still standing, proceeded:--he stood here for the liberties of the people of Canada. Here the uproar became tremendous.<sup>29</sup> The Sergeant-at-arms stood mute at the bar; and the confusion rose to an alarming height; Macdonald insisting on the right of the House to go on.<sup>30</sup> Mr. Macdonald was ... on his legs, gesticulating violently, and while his face shewed how deeply he was moved, he shouted out at the top of his voice for something like a quarter of an hour. What he said could not be distinguished, but such words as shameful--disgraceful--unconstitutional--revolutionary,--might now and again be heard and showed clearly the tenor of his exclamations.<sup>31</sup> [He] made a strong attack on the unconstitutionality of the course pursued by the Ministry and declared that it was done to avoid inquiry into their corrupt practices before the election.<sup>32</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD the SPEAKER [was] standing as if to speak.<sup>33</sup> [He] in vain tried to restore order.<sup>34</sup>

SIR A. MACNAB rose and spoke in favor of delay; but it was very difficult to hear what he said.<sup>35</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND rose and expressed a hope that for the dignity of the House this scene of confusion would come to an end.<sup>36</sup> [He] called the

Speaker to keep order, to preserve the dignity of the house.<sup>37</sup>

MR. ROBINSON rising with great excitement,--Dignity of the HOUSE! What dignity are we treated with. (Cheers.)<sup>38</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE--put my motion (order--chair: hear, hear):--<sup>39</sup>

SIR A. MACNAB, during a moment's calm said, the ministry had not explained, whether they had tendered their resignation or in what position they stood before the country, was this like English statesmen?<sup>40</sup> Depuis les jours de Cromwell, ... on n'a rien vu de semblable dans l'histoire des parlements anglais.<sup>41</sup> Yet, standing with only four independent votes from Upper Canada, and a bare majority from Lower Canada, they will allow nothing to be said, but dissolve the house the moment it expressed an opinion different from theirs.<sup>42</sup>

MR. BROWN also, with his stentorian voice, might be seen on his legs in the uproar, but he could not be heard any more than Mr. Macdonald.<sup>43</sup> [He] was understood to say--Why don't the Ministry pass their necessary measures? They dissolved to escape enquiry into their corruption. (Cries of yes! and tremendous noise.)<sup>44</sup>

MR. LANGTON, and other members attempted to speak to the same effect, but were not heard in consequence of the uproar. Such a scene was never witnessed before.<sup>45</sup>

MR. LANGTON asked the speaker whether he thought the discussion should continue, if not, he would yield to that opinion.<sup>46</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD the SPEAKER stated he had said, "admit the messenger," and the messenger being within the walls, he thought a discussion irregular.<sup>47</sup>

Cries of chair, chair.<sup>48</sup>

Order was then restored.<sup>49</sup>

(31)

*A Message from His Excellency the Governor General, by René Kimber, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:--*

*Mr. Speaker,*

*I am commanded by His Excellency the Governor General to acquaint this Honorable House, that it is the pleasure of His Excellency that the Members thereof do forthwith attend him in the Legislative Council Chamber.*

The Sergeant-at-arms carried off the mace.--the Speaker followed him to obey the summons of the Governor.<sup>50</sup>

MR. BROWN still standing and attempting to speak, the House arose and went to the Legislative Council Chamber.<sup>51</sup>

(31)

*Accordingly Mr. Speaker, with the House, went up to attend His Excellency.*

*And the Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly addressed His Excellency the Governor General, as followeth:--*

*May it please Your Excellency,*

*It has been the immemorial custom of the Speaker of the Commons House of Parliament, to communicate to the Throne the general result of the deliberations of the Assembly upon the principal objects which have employed the attention of Parliament during the period of their labours. It is not now part of my duty thus to address Your Excellency, inasmuch as there has been*



no Act passed or judgment of Parliament obtained, since we were honored by Your Excellency's announcement of the cause of summoning the Parliament by your gracious Speech from the Throne. The passing of an Act through its several stages according to the law and custom of Parliament, (solemnly declared applicable to the Parliamentary proceedings of this Province, by a decision of the Legislative Assembly of 1841,) is held to be necessary to constitute a Session of Parliament. This we have been unable to accomplish, owing to the command which Your Excellency has laid upon us to meet you this day for the purpose of prorogation. At the same time I feel called upon to assure Your Excellency on the part of Her Majesty's faithful Commons, that it is not from any want of respect to yourself or to the August Personage whom you represent in these Provinces, that no answer has been returned by the Legislative Assembly to your gracious Speech from the Throne.

The protest was calmly read in English and French.<sup>52</sup>

(31)

After which, His Excellency was pleased to make the following Speech to both Houses:--

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,  
Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

When I met you at the commencement of the present Session, I expressed the hope that you would proceed without delay to pass such a Law in reference to the period appointed for introducing the amended Franchise, as would have enabled me to bring at once into operation those important measures affecting the representation of the people in Parliament, which were adopted by you with such singular unanimity last Session. Having been disappointed in this expectation, I still consider that it is due to the people of the Province, and most respectful to the decision of the Legislature, that I should take such steps as are in my power to give effect to the Law by which the Parliamentary representation of the people is augmented, before calling the attention of Parliament to questions on which the public mind has been long agitated, and the settlement of which it is most desirable to effect in such a manner as will be most likely to secure for it the confidence of the people.

I have come therefore to meet you on the present occasion for the purpose of proroguing this Parliament, with a view to an immediate dissolution.

Then the Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Council said:--

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and  
Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

It is His Excellency the Governor General's will and pleasure that this Provincial Parliament be prorogued until Saturday the twenty-ninth day of July next, to be then here holden: and this Provincial Parliament is accordingly prorogued until Saturday the twenty-ninth day of July next.

APPENDIX: 22 JUNE 1854.

[DISCUSSION IN SECRET SESSION RE: POST OFFICE.]

A discussion took place in secret Session, while Parliament was sitting at Quebec, on certain irregularities in the conveyance and distribution of the mails. We do not intend to refer more particularly to what took place during the discussion in question, as the Speaker requested that the statements made on the occasion should not be reported to the public.<sup>53</sup>

FOOTNOTES: 22 JUNE 1854.

1. GLOBE, 29 June 1854. The following debate was reported by: LE PAYS, 24 June 1854; MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854; TORONTO LEADER, 27 June 1854; and GLOBE, 29 June 1854. There was also a telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854). An unknown paper in Scrapbook Hansard used the telegraph report, but added to the speeches of Mr. Mackenzie.
2. IBID.
3. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854). MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854, reported that Mr. Hincks "looked pale and haggard and woe-begone, and trembled exceedingly during the whole scene--his very frame visibly shook."
4. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
5. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
6. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
7. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
8. IBID.
9. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
10. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854). MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854, noted that Sir A. MacNab spoke "amid a silence deep as death."
11. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
12. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
13. IBID.
14. IBID.
15. IBID.
16. IBID.
17. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
18. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
19. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
20. Unknown paper in Scrapbook Hansard. The telegraph report (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854) had it that Mr. Mackenzie moved "that the House sit till 6 o'clock." GLOBE, 29 June 1854, reported that he "asked leave to introduce a Bill for the secularization of the Reserves."
21. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
22. TORONTO LEADER, 27 June 1854.
23. Unknown paper in Scrapbook Hansard.
24. TORONTO LEADER, 27 June 1854.
25. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
26. IBID.
27. TORONTO LEADER, 27 June 1854.
28. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
29. IBID.
30. TORONTO LEADER, 27 June 1854.
31. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
32. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
33. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
34. TORONTO LEADER, 27 June 1854.
35. IBID.
36. IBID.
37. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
38. IBID.
39. IBID.
40. IBID.
41. LE PAYS, 24 June 1854.



42. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
43. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
44. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
45. GLOBE, 29 June 1854.
46. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
47. Unknown paper in Scrapbook Hansard.
48. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854).
49. TORONTO LEADER, 27 June 1854.
50. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
51. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 24 June 1854). MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854, comments, "My Lord Elgin was ... saved the necessity of sending soldiers to turn out the Assembly, but he was not saved the indignity of being forced to wait for about forty minutes before the Assembly honored him with their presence."
52. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 26 June 1854.
53. TORONTO LEADER, 28 June 1854. The date on which this discussion took place is not known.

## INDEX

### INTRODUCTION

The following Index is divided into two sections: proper names and subjects. It applies only to the session of June 1854. The proper name Index is limited to the names of the men who sat in the Canadian Assembly at this time. It refers to every occasion a member proposed or seconded a motion or resolution, or brought up a petition; it refers to every speech he delivered during debates, and to every other time he addressed the House or took the chair of the House in Committee of the Whole. Only individual votes are excluded because divisions rightfully belong with the legislation they pertain to, and all legislation is included in the subject Index.

The subject Index is based on the Index to the JOURNALS. However it has been modified, corrected and expanded to render it more useful and complete. In particular, the subjects of all the legislative events reported in the daily Appendices are included in the Index. This Index provides more than a subject analysis of parliamentary events. It also indicates the passage of each particular item through the various stages of the legislative process. It is thus a parliamentary subject Index.

The entries in this Index contain double sets of numbers whenever this is appropriate. The set contained within parentheses refers to pages in the JOURNALS. All other numbers refer to pages in this Volume. When something is mentioned in the JOURNALS it will be indexed with a double reference. Subjects mentioned only in reconstructed material are indicated by a single page number.

A cross-reference system is also provided. The "vide" is placed immediately after the subject heading if it refers the reader to another subject heading under which the relevant subject matter is to be found. However any "vide" that refers the reader to additional subject matter on a topic or topics outlined under the subject heading is indented and placed immediately below the relevant topic or topics. The "vide" is placed against the left margin if it refers the reader to another subject heading which is similar or related but does not contain additional subject matter on the same topics.





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Leeds .....	Hon. William Buell Richards .....	Accepted Office, (2) 1.

---

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N.

NICOLET RIVER:--Vide Roads and Bridges.

NOTARIES, MONTREAL BOARD:--Vide Lappare, Henri.

O.

OATHS OF OFFICE:--Vide Justices of the Peace.

ORANGE SOCIETY:--Notice of motion for leave to introduce Bill to incorporate the Orange Society of Canada, 5.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:--To be pursued by the Administration this Session, discussion thereon, 55-56.

ORDERS:--

1. That the postage on letters and papers to and from Members be charged to the Contingencies, (4) 4.
2. That the Votes and Proceedings be printed, under the direction of Mr. Speaker, (4) 4.

ORDERS, STANDING:--Standing Committee on Standing Orders appointed, (20) 55, (26) 86.

P.

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, QUEBEC:--

1. Petition of William Winder, Esquire, Librarian to the Legislative Assembly, praying compensation for loss sustained at the burning of the Parliament Buildings in February last, (10) 14, (13) 22. Referred to the Committee on the Library, (26) 86.
2. Notice of question concerning the Government's intentions for the site and ruins of the Parliament Buildings at Quebec, 78.

Vide Addresses, 2; Music Hall.

PEEL:--Petition of J. Sanderson and others, praying that Peel may be set apart as a separate County, (11) 15, (14) 23. Printed, (26) 85.

PETERBORO' AND PORT HOPE RAILWAY COMPANY:--Petition of, for amendments to their Act of Incorporation, and a change of their name, (12) 21, (19) 54.

PETERBOROUGH AND MUD LAKE TRAM ROAD COMPANY:--Notice of motion for leave to introduce a Bill to incorporate the Peterborough and Mud Lake Tram Road Company, 44.

## PETITIONS:--

## KEY TO PETITIONS PRESENTED AND READ.

## A.

Arcand, J.O.C., and others: vide Roads and Bridges.

Archambault, Louis, and others: vide Roads and Bridges.

## B.

Bank of Montreal: vide Montreal Bank.

Bankier, Mary Ann: vide Quebec Lower Town Infant School.

Berthier Academy, Corporation of: vide Berthier Academy.

Boston, John, and others: vide Montreal.

Boudreau, E., and others: vide Montreal Trinity House.

## C.

Caron, Nazaire, and others: vide L'Islet Association of School Teachers.

Chévigny, Reverend M.J.E., and others: vide St. Henri de Mascouche, Academy of.

Church Society of the United Church of England and Ireland: vide Clergy Reserves.

City Bank of Montreal, President and Directors: vide Montreal City Bank.

Clerk and other officers and servants of this house: vide Clerk of the House, 2.

Commercial Bank of the Midland District: vide Commercial Bank, Midland District.

Côté, Ambroise, and others: vide Quebec Turnpike Roads.

Crevier, Reverend Edouard J.: vide Ste. Marie de Monnoir, 1.

Crevier, Reverend Edouard Joseph: vide Ste. Marie de Monnoir, 2.

## D.

Desrosiers, Leopold, and others: vide Bertheir Mechanics' Institute.

Deziel, Reverend J.D., and others: vide Dorchester.

Drolet, Fabien, and others: vide Quebec Turnpike Roads.

Duchesnay, E., and others: vide Ste. Marie de la Beauce.

## G.

Gadbois, V., and others: vide Seigniorial Tenure.

Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada: vide Grand Trunk Railway.

Guyon, Reverend J.L., and others: vide Ste. Elizabeth (Berthier).

## H.

Harper, Reverend J., and others: vide St. Grégoire Academy.

## I.

Institut National of the City of Montreal: vide Institut National (Montreal).

## K.

Kingsey Slate Works Company: vide Kingsey Slate Works Co.

## L.

Langevin, Jean.

Lappare, Henri.

L'Assomption, Corporation of the College of: vide L'Assomption College.

## M.

Macdonell, S.S., and others: vide Windsor Hotel Company.

McMillan, Donald, and others: vide Seigniorial Tenure.

Magdalen Islands, Municipal Council: vide Magdalen Islands.



Mathon, Pierre Jean.

Métivier, Pierre, and others: vide Aston.

Montreal and Bytown Railway Company: vide Montreal and Bytown Railway Co.

Montreal and Vermont Junction Railway Company: vide Montreal and Vermont Railway Co.

Montreal Board of Trade: vide Potash and Peal Ash.

Montreal General Hospital, Corporation of: vide Montreal General Hospital.

Montreal Ladies' Benevolent Society.

Montreal Mining Company.

Morrin, Joseph: vide Quebec Building Society.

Morrison, William, and others: vide Intoxicating Liquors, Petitions Against.

Normandin, Antoine, and others: vide Seigniorial Tenure.

P.

Paradis, Reverend T., and others: vide Roads and Bridges.

Peterborough and Port Hope Railway Company: vide Peterborough and Port Hope Railway Co.

Port Hope Harbour, Commissioners of the: vide Port Hope Harbour.

Prévost, Reverend T.H., and others, Montreal Roman Catholic School Commissioners: vide Montreal Model and Academic Schools.

R.

Routier, H., and others: vide St. Joseph de Point Lévi.

S.

St. Germain, Reverend Jean-Baptiste: vide St. Laurent, Académie Industrielle de.

Ste. Anne de la Pocatière, Corporation of the College of: vide Ste. Anne de la Pocatière, College of.

Sanderson, J., and others: vide Peel.

Settle, John, and others: vide Mulmur, &c.

Simcoe, Municipal Council of the County of (two petitions): vide Education. Municipalities (Upper Canada).

Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly Railroad Company: vide Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly Railroad Co.

T.

Taschereau, J.T., and others: vide Quebec and Maine Railroad.

Taylor, Thomas M., and others: vide Montreal Zion Church.

Théberge, Reverend A., and others: vide Masson College.

Trudel, André, and others: vide Batiscan River.

Trudeau, Reverend A.F., and Viger, Jacques: vide Montreal St. Jacques School.

V.

Valois, Gabriel: vide Pointe Claire Academy.

Vaudreuil Railway Company.

Viger, Jacques, and Trudeau, Reverend A.F.: vide Montreal St. Jacques School.

W.

Watters, D., and others: vide Quebec Turnpike Roads.

Werner, Reverend George, and others: vide Montreal German Evangelical Congregation.

Winder, William: vide Parliament Buildings, Quebec.

Workman, William, and others: vide Montreal Steam Navigation Co.

## PETITIONS PRESENTED BUT NOT READ.

## B.

Banque du Peuple, (17) 53.  
 Barker, William, and others, (17) 52.  
 Bedard, Reverend P., and others, (25) 85.  
 Bishop of Montreal, and others, (17) 52.  
 Bishop of Montreal, (Anglican), and others, (17) 52.  
 Bishop of Quebec, (Anglican), (25) 84.  
 Brockville and Ottawa Railway Company, (24) 84.  
 Brockville Division, Number One, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, (24) 84.  
 Brown, Robert, and others, (25) 84.

## C.

Campbell, Francis, and others, (24) 84.  
 Cascade Division, No. 155, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, (24) 84.  
 Chauveau, Pierre J.O., and others, (18) 53.  
 Cheney, Elias, and others, (18) 53.  
 Chinguacousy, Municipality of the Township of, (24) 84.  
 Cluniss, David, and others, (25) 85.  
 Crébassa, John George, and others, (17) 52.

## D.

Davidson, Thomas L., and Duncan, Abram, (17) 53.  
 de Chantal, Sister Ste. J.F., and others, (17) 52.  
 de Laval, G.A., M.D., and others, (17) 52.  
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 Dingman, Abram, and others, (17) 53.  
 Dorion, J., and others, (17) 52.  
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## E.

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## F.

Flanagan, John, and others, (25) 84.  
 Frontenac Division, No. 2, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, (25) 84.  
 Fulford, Mary, and others, (17) 52.

## G.

Galt, A.T., (17) 53.  
 Groulx, Reverend A., and others, (25) 84.

## H.

Haldimand, Municipal Council of the County of, (25) 84.  
 Hall, George B., and others, (17) 52.  
 Hamilton and Toronto Railway Company, (17) 53.

## J.

Jones, Charles, and others, (25) 84.

K.

Kérouac, Léon, and Létourneau, Eléonore, (17) 52.

L.

Lanark Division, No. 409, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, (25) 84.

Leeds, Lanark and Renfrew Locomotive Manufacturing Company, (24) 84.

Létourneau, Eléonore, and Kérouac, Léon, (17) 52.

London, Town Council of the Town of, (17) 52.

Lynch, John, and others, (24) 84.

M.

Macdonell, Allan, and others, (17) 52.

Marquette, P., and others, (17) 52.

Masson, J.H., and others, (25) 85.

Merizzi, A., and others, (25) 84.

Montreal Horticultural Society, President and Directors, (12) 21.

Montreal, Mechanics' Institute of, (17) 52.

N.

Neilson, William, and others, (17) 52.

Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge Company, (17) 52.

Nicholls, L.W., and others, (17) 52.

Norfolk, Municipal Council of the County of (two petitions), (17) 53.

North Shore Railway Company, (17) 52.

O.

O'Donnell, Edward, and others, (17) 52.

P.

Papin, François, and others, (16) 52.

Peterborough and Victoria, Municipal Council of the United Counties of (two petitions), (25) 84.

Peterborough Division, No. 45, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, (25) 84.

Plamondon, A., and others, (25) 84.

Powell, William, and Saunders, Thomas, (17) 52.

Prefontaine, C., and others, (17) 53.

Prince Edward Division, No. 14, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, (25) 84.

Protestant Female Orphan Asylum, Committee of Ladies of the, (17) 52.

Q.

Quebec Bank, (17) 52.

Quebec Friendly Society, (18) 53.

S.

Ste. Thérèse de Blainville, Seminary of, (25) 84.

Saunders, Thomas, and Powell, William, (17) 52.

Scott, Robert, and others, (25) 85.

Sharples, John, and others, (25) 85.

Smith, William Henry, and others, (25) 84.

Snowdon, W., and others, (25) 84.

Sons of Temperance, Brockville Division, Number One, (24) 84.

Sons of Temperance, Cascade Division, No. 155, (24) 84.

Sons of Temperance, Eastern Star Division, No. 204, (26) 85.

Sons of Temperance, Frontenac Division, No. 2, (25) 84.  
 Sons of Temperance, Lanark Division, No. 409, (25) 84.  
 Sons of Temperance, Peterborough Division, No. 45, (25) 84.  
 Sons of Temperance, Prince Edward Division, No. 14, (25) 84.  
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 Stanley, Municipality of the Township of, (25) 84.  
 Stevenson, James, and others, (17) 52.  
 Stuart, Andrew, and others, (17) 52.  
 Suzor, Reverend P.H., and others, (25) 85.

T.

Tiffany, George S., and others, (17) 52.  
 Toronto, Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of, (17) 52.  
 Turgeon, Reverend C.F., and others, (16) 52.

W.

Watts, R.N., and others, (17) 52.

Y.

Yates, Horatio, and others, (25) 84.  
 York and Peel, Municipal Council of the United Counties of, (25) 85.  
 York, Ontario and Peel, Municipal Council of the United Counties of, (25) 85.

POINT LEVI:--

1. Notice of motion for appointment of a committee to investigate the sale of certain Crown properties at or near Point Levi, 78.
2. Notice of motion for an address to His Excellency for all documents relating to the sale of property at or near Point Levi, so that they might be referred to above committee, 78.

Vide Addresses, 1.

POINTE CLAIRE ACADEMY:--Petition of Gabriel Valois, for aid thereto, (12) 21, (19) 54.

POLICE:--Vide Gaspé; Quebec, 3.

PORT HOPE HARBOUR:--Petition of the Commissioners thereof, for amendments to their Act of Incorporation, (12) 21, (19) 54.

PORT HOPE, LINDSAY AND BEAVERTON RAILWAY COMPANY:--Vide Peterboro' and Port Hope Railway Company.

POSTAGE OF MEMBERS:--Vide Members, 1.

POST OFFICE:--

1. Notice of motion for leave to introduce a Bill on the subject of the post office, 17.
2. Discussion in secret Session concerning irregularities in the distribution of mail, 114.

POTASH AND PEARL ASH:--Petition of the Montreal Board of Trade, for amendments to the laws regulating the inspection of pot and pearl ashes in Montreal, (12) 21, (19) 54. Notice of motion for leave to introduce a Bill, 78.

PRINTING:--

1. Standing Committee on Printing appointed, (20) 55, (26) 86.



2. Documents ordered to be printed, (11) 20, (26) 85.
3. Votes and Proceedings ordered to be printed under the direction of Mr. Speaker, (4) 4.

PRIVILEGES:--Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections appointed, (19) 55, (26) 86.

PROCLAMATIONS:--

1. Proroguing the Provincial Parliament, pp. i to xi.
2. Convening Parliament, p. ix.
3. Announcing the Royal Assent to Beresford's Divorce Bill, p. viii.

PROROGATION:--

1. Question, whether Parliament would be immediately prorogued, 109. Mr. Speaker communicates a letter from His Excellency's Private Secretary, announcing His Excellency's intention of proroguing the Legislature this day, (30) 109-110. Discussion thereon, 110-112.
2. His Excellency prorogues the Legislature, (31) 113.

PROVINCIAL GEOLOGIST OF CANADA:--Notice of motion for an address to His Excellency praying that the several reports of the Provincial Geologist be re-printed, 45.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS:--Standing Committee on the Public Accounts appointed, (20) 55, (26) 86.

PUBLIC GENERAL STATUTES:--Notice of motion for an address to His Excellency praying that a Commission be appointed to revise and republish the Public General Statutes, 45. Motion for the appointment of a commission; withdrawn, 79.

Q.

QUEBEC:--

1. Bill to render the office of Mayor of Quebec elective by the people. Notice of motion, for leave to introduce Bill, 17. Presented, (14) 23.
2. Bill to repeal in part the Act providing a remedy against the Corporation of Quebec, in case of injury to property during riots. Notice of motion for leave to introduce Bill, 44. Presented after a debate thereon, (20) 56-57.
3. Notice of motion, for a Select Committee to inquire into the expenses of prosecution in police cases in Quebec, and into the efficiency of the Police of the said city, 45. Committee appointed, (21) 57.

QUEBEC AND MAINE RAILROAD:--Petition of J.T. Taschereau and others, for incorporation of a company to construct a railroad from Point Levi (opposite Quebec) to the State of Maine, (10) 14, (13) 22. Printed, (26) 85.

QUEBEC AND SAGUENAY RAILWAY COMPANY:--Notice of motion for leave to introduce a bill to incorporate the Quebec and Saguenay Railway Company, 78.

QUEBEC BUILDING SOCIETY:--Petition of Joseph Morrin and others, for an amendment to their Act of Incorporation, (12) 21, (19) 55.

QUEBEC CUSTOM HOUSE:--Notice of motion for an address to His Excellency for documents connected with the erection of the Quebec Custom House, 17. Motion postponed, 23.

QUEBEC FERRY:--Vide Addresses, 1.

QUEBEC LOWER TOWN INFANT SCHOOL:--Petition of Mary Anne Bankier, for aid thereto, (11) 15, (14) 22.

QUEBEC POST OFFICE:--Vide Addresses, 3.

QUEBEC TRINITY HOUSE:--Vide Accounts, 3.

QUEBEC TURNPIKE ROADS:--Petitions for improvement of further roads:--of D. Watters and others; and of Ambroise Côté and others; Road from Cap Rouge bridge to the hill at the old church in St. Augustin: Of Fabien Drolet and others; Road from Lorette by the third range of St. Augustin, (10) 14, (13) 22.

QUESTIONS:--

1. Debate on a question adjourned, (16) 42, (24) 77.

2. Amendment to an amendment, (28) 86.

R.

RAILROADS:--

1. Notice of motion, for leave to introduce a bill compelling arbitration for railway rights of way, etc., 5. Bill to amend the Railway Clauses Consolidation Act, as regards the settlement of claims for compensation for land or materials taken for Railways, &c.; Presented, (20) 55-56.

2. Standing Committee on Railroads, Canals, and Telegraph Lines, appointed, (20) 55, (26) 86.

RAWDON:--Vide Roads and Bridges.

REGISTRY OFFICES:--Bill to remove doubts as to the mode of making searches in the Registry Offices in Lower Canada. Notice of motion for leave to introduce Bill, 44. Presented, (21) 57.

RESERVED BILL:--Vide Beresford, William Henry.

ROADS AND BRIDGES:--Petitions for aid for roads and bridges:--Of Louis Archambault and others; Road and bridges on the line leading from Kildare to the main road to Rawdon &c., (10) 14, (13) 21. Of J.O.C. Arcand and others; for opening of a road from Broughton to St. Joseph, (10) 14, (13) 22. Of Rev. T. Paradis and others; Road from the English Church in Kingsey to the River Nicolet, (12) 20, (18) 53.

S.

STE. ANNE DE LA POCATIERE, COLLEGE OF:--Petition of the said Corporation, for aid, (12) 21, (19) 55.

STE. ELIZABETH (BERTHIER):--Petition of Rev. J.L. Guyon and others, for aid for a female school in that Parish, (12) 20, (18) 53.

ST. GREGOIRE ACADEMY:--Petition of Rev. J. Harper and others, for aid thereto, (10) 14, (13) 22.

ST. HENRI DE MASCOUCHE, ACADEMY OF:--Petition of Rev. M.J.E. Chévigny and others, for aid, (10) 14, (13) 22.

ST. JACQUES SCHOOL:--Vide Montreal St. Jacques School.

ST. JOSEPH DE POINT LEVI:--Petition of H. Routier and others, for aid to erect a school for girls in that parish, (10) 14, (13) 22.

ST. LAURENT, ACADEMIE INDUSTRIELLE DE:--Petition of Rev. J.B. St. Germain, for

aid thereto, (12) 21, (19) 54.

STE. MARIE DE LA BEAUCE:--Petition of E. Duchesnay and others, for aid to establish a College in that Parish, (12) 21, (19) 54.

STE. MARIE DE MONNOIR:--

1. Petition of Rev. Edouard Joseph Crevier, for an Act of Incorporation for a College in that Parish, (4) 4, (13) 21.
2. Petition of the same, for aid for certain schools in that Parish, (12) 20, (18) 54.

SEIGNIORIAL TENURE:--Petitions for the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure:--  
Of Donald McMillan and others, of Rigaud; Of V. Gadbois and others, of Beloeil, (11) 14, (14) 22. Of Antoine Normandin and others, of Montreal, (12) 20, (18) 53.

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES:--Vide Committees.

SERJEANT AT ARMS:--

1. Mr. Speaker acquaints the House that His Excellency had appointed Donald William McDonell, Esquire, Serjeant-at-Arms, in the place of George K. Chisholm, Esquire, (11) 20.
2. Mr. Speaker informs the House that the Serjeant-at-Arms had appointed Mr. Farquhar McGillivray to act as his deputy during a temporary absence, (30) 109.

SICOTTE, LOUIS VICTOR:--Discussion concerning his acceptance of office as Commissioner of Crown Lands, and his subsequent refusal, 27-31.

SPEAKER:--

1. Reports certificates of election of Members returned upon new writs issued during the recess, (1) 1.
2. Reports His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, (2) 2.
3. Reports a copy of the Minutes of the Commissioner appointed for the examination of witnesses on the Kamouraska controverted election, (3) 3. Ditto on Megantic Election, (4) 3. That he had issued his warrants for the re-assembling of the Committees on the said elections, (4) 3.
4. Reports a letter from the Clerk of the House requesting permission to appoint a Deputy Assistant, in consequence of the illness of George B. Faribault, the Clerk Assistant,--and states that Mr. William B. Lindsay, Junior, had been appointed, with his approbation, (5) 9.
5. Lays before the House various Reports and Returns, (5) 9, 11 (20).
6. Acquaints the House that His Excellency had appointed D.W. McDonell, Esquire, Serjeant-at-Arms, (11) 20.
7. Acquaints the House that his warrant for the appointment of Members to serve on the General Committee of Elections was upon the table, (11) 20.
8. Reads the resolutions proposed in reply to the Speech from the Throne, 27.
9. Informs the House that the Serjeant-at-Arms had appointed a deputy to act during his absence, (30) 109.
10. Communicates a letter from His Excellency's Private Secretary, relative to the prorogation, (30) 109-110.

Vide Prorogation.

11. Addresses His Excellency, upon the attendance of the House at the Bar of the Legislative Council Chamber at the close of the Session, (31) 112-113.

SPEECHES:--Vide Governor General, 1, 3. Speaker, 8, 11.

STANSTEAD, SHEFFORD, AND CHAMBLY RAILROAD CO.:--Petition of, for amendments to their Act of Incorporation, (12) 20, (18) 53.

STANDING COMMITTEES:--Vide Committees.

STATUTES:--Vide Public General Statutes.

T.

TAVERN LICENSES:--Vide Municipalities (Upper Canada).

TOSSORONTIO:--Vide Mulmur.

TRINITY HOUSES:--Vide Accounts, 3. Montreal Trinity House.

U.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF TORONTO:--Vide Education.

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE:--Vide Education.

V.

VAUDREUIL RAILWAY CO.:--Petition of, for amendments to their Act of Incorporation, (11) 14, (14) 22.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS:--Vide Legislative Assembly, 2.

W.

WINDER, WILLIAM:--Vide Parliament Buildings, 1.

WINDSOR HOTEL COMPANY:--Petition of S.S. Macdonell and others, for an Act of Incorporation, (4) 4, (13) 21.

WRITS:--Vide Elections, 1, 2.



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND  
THEIR CONSTITUENCIES

FIFTH PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

1st Part: 5 September 1854 to 18 December 1854

2nd Part: 23 February 1855 to 30 May 1855

Aikins, James Cox.....	Peel, U.C.
Alleyn, Charles.....	Quebec City, L.C.
Bell, Robert.....	Lanark North, U.C.
Bellingham, Sydney.....	Argenteuil, L.C.
Biggar, Herbert.....	Brant West, U.C.
Blanchet, Jean.....	Quebec City, L.C.
Bourassa, François.....	St. Johns, L.C.
Bowes, John George.....	Toronto City, U.C.
Brodeur, Timothée.....	Bagot, L.C.
Brown, George.....	Lambton, U.C.
Bureau, Jacques Olivier.....	Napierville, L.C.
Burton, Francis H. ....	Durham East, U.C.
Cameron, John Hillyard.....	Toronto City, U.C.
Cartier, Georges Etienne.....	Verchères, L.C.
Casault, Louis Eldemar Napoléon.....	Montmagny, L.C.
Cauchon, Joseph Edouard.....	Montmorency, L.C.
Cayley, William.....	Huron and Bruce, U.C.
Chabot, Jean <sup>1</sup> .....	Quebec City, L.C.
Chapais, Jean Charles.....	Kamouraska, L.C.
Chauveau, Pierre Joseph Olivier.....	Quebec County, L.C.
Chisholm, George King.....	Halton, U.C.
Church, Basil Rorison.....	Leeds and Grenville North, U.C.
Clarke, William.....	Wellington North, U.C.
Cook, Ephraim <sup>2</sup> .....	Oxford South, U.C.
Cooke, Alanson.....	Ottawa County, L.C.
Crawford, George.....	Brockville, U.C.
Crysler, John Pliny.....	Dundas, U.C.
Daly, Thomas Mayne.....	Perth, U.C.
Daoust, Charles.....	Beauharnois, L.C.
Daoust, Jean Baptiste.....	Two Mountains, L.C.
Darche, Noël.....	Chambly, L.C.
DeLong, Jesse.....	Leeds South, U.C.
Desaulniers, Louis Léon Lesieur.....	St. Maurice, L.C.
DeWitt, Jacob.....	Chateaugai, L.C.
Dionne, Benjamin.....	Témiscouata, L.C.
Dorion, Antoine Aimé.....	Montreal City, L.C.
Dorion, Jean Baptiste Eric.....	Drummond and Arthabaska, L.C.
Dostaler, Pierre Eustache.....	Berthier, L.C.
Drummond, Lewis Thomas.....	Shefford, L.C.
Dufresne, Joseph.....	Montcalm, L.C.
Egan, John.....	Pontiac, L.C.
Felton, William Locker Pickmore.....	Sherbrooke and Wolfe, L.C.
Fergusson, Adam Johnston.....	Wellington South, U.C.
Ferres, James Moir.....	Missisquoi East, L.C.
Ferrie, Robert.....	Waterloo South, U.C.

Flint, Billa.....	Hastings South, U.C.
Foley, Michael Hamilton.....	Waterloo North, U.C.
Fortier, Octave C. <sup>1</sup> .....	Bellechasse, L.C.
Fortier, Thomas.....	Nicolet, L.C.
Fournier, Charles François.....	L'Islet, L.C.
Frazer, John.....	Welland, U.C.
Freeman, Samuel Black.....	Wentworth South, U.C.
Galt, Alexander Tilloch.....	Sherbrooke Town, L.C.
Gamble, John William.....	York West, U.C.
Gill, Ignace.....	Yamaska, L.C.
Gould, Joseph.....	Ontario North, U.C.
Guévremont, Jean Baptiste.....	Richelieu, L.C.
Hartman, Joseph.....	York North, U.C.
Hincks, Francis <sup>2</sup> .....	Renfrew, U.C.
Holton, Luther Hamilton.....	Montreal City, L.C.
Huot, Pierre Gabriel.....	Saguenay, L.C.
Jackson, George.....	Grey, U.C.
Jobin, Joseph Hilarion.....	Joliette, L.C.
Labelle, Pierre.....	Laval, L.C.
Laberge, Charles Joseph.....	Iberville, L.C.
Langton, John.....	Peterborough, U.C.
Laporte, Joseph.....	Montreal Hochelaga, L.C.
Larwill, Edwin.....	Kent, U.C.
LeBoutillier, John.....	Gaspé, L.C.
Lemieux, François Xavier.....	Lévis, L.C.
Loranger, Thomas Jean Jacques.....	Laprairie, L.C.
Lumsden, John MacVeigh.....	Ontario South, U.C.
Lyon, George Byron.....	Russell, U.C.
Macbeth, George.....	Elgin West, U.C.
McCann, Henry Wellesly.....	Prescott, U.C.
Macdonald, John Alexander.....	Kingston, U.C.
Macdonald, John Sandfield.....	Glengarry, U.C.
McDonald, Roderick.....	Cornwall, U.C.
Mackenzie, William Lyon.....	Haldimand, U.C.
McKerlie, Daniel.....	Brant East, U.C.
MacNab, Allan Napier.....	Hamilton, U.C.
Marchildon, Thomas.....	Champlain, L.C.
Masson, Luc Hyacinthe.....	Soulanges, L.C.
Matheson, Donald.....	Oxford North, U.C.
Mattice, William.....	Stormont, U.C.
Meagher, John.....	Bonaventure, L.C.
Merritt, William Hamilton.....	Lincoln, U.C.
Mongenais, Jean Baptiste.....	Vaudreuil, L.C.
Morin, Augustin Norbert.....	Chicoutimi and Tadoussac, L.C.
Morrison, Angus.....	Simcoe North, U.C.
Morrison, Joseph Curran.....	Niagara, U.C.
Munro, Henry.....	Durham West, U.C.
Murney, Edmund.....	Hastings North, U.C.
Niles, William E. ....	Middlesex East, U.C.
O'Farrell, John.....	Lotbinière, L.C.
Papin, Joseph.....	L'Assomption, L.C.
Patrick, William.....	Grenville South, U.C.
Polette, Antoine.....	Three Rivers, L.C.

Poulin, Joseph Napoléon.....	Rouville, L.C.
Pouliot, Barthelemi.....	Dorchester, L.C.
Powell, William Frederick.....	Carleton, U.C.
Prévost, Gédéon Mélasippe.....	Terrebonne, L.C.
Rankin, Arthur.....	Essex, U.C.
Rhodes, William.....	Megantic, L.C.
Robinson, William Benjamin.....	Simcoe South, U.C.
Roblin, David.....	Lennox and Addington, U.C.
Rolph, John.....	Norfolk, U.C.
Ross, Dunbar.....	Beauce, L.C.
Ross, James.....	Northumberland East, U.C.
Sanborn, John Sewell.....	Compton, L.C.
Scatcherd, John.....	Middlesex West, U.C.
Shaw, James.....	Lanark South, U.C.
Sicotte, Louis Victor.....	St. Hyacinthe, L.C.
Smith, Henry.....	Frontenac, U.C.
Smith, James.....	Victoria, U.C.
Smith, Sidney.....	Northumberland West, U.C.
Somerville, Robert Brown.....	Huntingdon, L.C.
Southwick, George.....	Elgin East, U.C.
Spence, Robert.....	Wentworth North, U.C.
Stevenson, David Barker.....	Prince Edward, U.C.
Taché, Joseph Charles.....	Rimouski, L.C.
Terrill, Timothy Lee.....	Stanstead, L.C.
Thibaudeau, Joseph Elie.....	Portneuf, L.C.
Turcotte, Joseph Edouard.....	Maskinongé, L.C.
Valois, Michel François.....	Montreal Jacques Cartier,
Whitney, Hannibal Hodges.....	Missisquoi West, L.C.
Wilson, John.....	London, U.C.
Wright, Amos.....	York East, U.C.
Yeilding, Agar.....	Bytown, U.C.
Young, John.....	Montreal City, L.C.

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1. J. Chabot represented Bellechasse until 22 September 1854, and O. Fortier was subsequently elected in that county, 17 October 1854.
  2. F. Hincks represented Oxford South until 18 September 1854, and E. Cook was subsequently elected in that county, 9 October 1854.





1  
TUESDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 1854.<sup>1</sup>

(1)

ON which day, being the first day of the Meeting of this Parliament for the Despatch of Business, pursuant to a Proclamation (hereunto annexed) of His Excellency the Right Honorable James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Governor General,--George Barthelemi Faribault, Gustavus William Wicksteed, and William Poyntz Patrick, Esquires, Commissioners appointed by Dedimus Potestatem for administering the Oath to the Members of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, came at the hour of twelve o'clock, at noon, into the Room allotted for the Sittings of the Assembly, and William Burns Lindsay, Esquire, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, attending according to his duty, and Félix Fortier, Esquire, Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, having delivered to the said Mr. Lindsay, a Roll containing a List of the Names of such Members as had been returned to serve in this Provincial Parliament, the Commissioners did administer the Oath to the Members who appeared, which being done, and the Members having subscribed the Roll containing the Oath, they took their Seats in the Assembly.

A Message was brought by René Kimber, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:--

(2)

Gentlemen,

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of the Members of this Honorable House in the Legislative Council Chamber.

Accordingly, the Members went to attend His Excellency in the Legislative Council Chamber; where being,

The Honorable Speaker of the Legislative Council said:--

Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

His Excellency the Governor General does not see fit to declare the causes of his summoning the present Provincial Parliament, until a Speaker of the Legislative Assembly shall have been chosen according to Law; but that Tomorrow, at the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon, His Excellency will declare the causes of his calling this Parliament.

And the Members being returned;

Robert Spence, Esquire, Member representing the North Riding of the County of Wentworth, addressing himself to the Clerk, (who, standing up, pointed to him and then sat down,) proposed to the House for their Speaker, George Etienne Cartier, Esquire, which Motion was seconded by François Lemieux, Esquire, Member representing the County of Levis.<sup>2</sup>

MR. SPENCE, rose and proposed as Speaker of the First Reform Parliament of Canada, Mr. George Cartier, whom he mentioned as the person chosen by his own political friends, as the member likely to unite most of their suffrages. He did not make the proposal on sectional grounds, however, nor with reference to the confidence the House might or might not repose in the Ministry. He repeated, he proposed him as the choice of his political friends<sup>3</sup>, et aussi comme possédant à un haut degré toutes les connaissances et l'expérience requises pour remplir cette charge avec honneur.<sup>4</sup>

MR. LEMIEUX seconded the motion, and spoke ... in French.<sup>5</sup> Mr. Cartier was too well known to require many words of eulogium from him. Mr. Cartier had been long in the House, and was thoroughly acquainted with its business

and would certainly be capable of fulfilling the duties of presiding over it in every respect. Every one must be convinced that he would shew firmness and impartiality. The alternate system had been hitherto in force, and, whatever might be said against it, it had resulted in producing a degree of harmony in the working of the Government, which did honor to the Province. After the union Sir Allan MacNab had followed Mr. Cuvillier, the first Speaker, then Mr. Morin, had been chosen, then Mr. MacDonald, from Upper Canada, following the same system, and in this fifth Parliament, it would be the duty of the House to select a member from Lower Canada. He did not mean to say that this alternation was absolutely necessary, but he did think it was convenient and had been too successful to be abandoned without strong reasons. He repeated his opinion that the hon. member for Verchères would fulfil the duties of the chair in a dignified and honorable manner.<sup>6</sup>

(2)

*Antoine Aimé Dorion, Esquire, one of the Members representing the City of Montreal, stood up, and addressing himself in like manner to the Clerk, proposed to the House for their Speaker, Louis Victor Sicotte, Esquire, in which Motion he was seconded by Joseph Hartman, Esquire, Member representing the North Riding of the County of York.*

MR. A. DORION proposed in amendment a person having also a great deal of experience, and, what was better, who was remarkable for possessing a moderation of opinion and of conduct. If precipitation and warmth were injurious in a man who held the office of Speaker, in the same proportion were calmness, dignity and firmness, the qualities which rendered a person especially suitable for that post. These qualities were all particularly noticeable in the member for St. Hyacinthe.<sup>7</sup> Il donna aussi, comme étant une raison en faveur de M. Sicotte, le fait que ce monsieur n'a jamais été le partisan ardent et outré d'une politique quelconque.<sup>8</sup> He was well known too for his conscientiousness and independence, and he would therefore be especially fitted for presiding over the House. Considering that the qualifications of this gentleman could not be doubted, and that upon the whole he was the fittest person to be chosen, he proposed the hon. member for St. Hy[a]cinthe.<sup>9</sup>

MR. HARTMAN had much pleasure in seconding the motion. No one who had sat with Mr. Sicotte in the last session could doubt his extreme fitness for the office arising out of the qualities mentioned by Mr. Dorion.<sup>10</sup>

(2)

*Then John Scatcherd, Esquire, Member representing the West Riding of the County of Middlesex, stood up, and addressing himself in like manner to the Clerk, proposed to the House for their Speaker, the Honorable John Sandfield Macdonald, in which Motion he was seconded by Donald Matheson, Esquire, Member representing the North Riding of the County of Oxford.*

MR. SCATCHERD, in a very few words, proposed Mr. J.S. McDonald, who he said, last session had evinced a manliness which the House should honor.<sup>11</sup> [He] dwelt upon the independence shown by Mr. McDonald in the last session of the House, and the obligation of the House to show a proper sense of his merits.<sup>12</sup>

MR. MATHESON, considering the vote an open one, not in any way affecting the confidence of the House in the Ministry, would second the motion.<sup>13</sup>

DR. T. FORTIER se leva et dit que l'hon. membre pour Montréal proposait l'hon. membre pour St. Hyacinthe parcequ'il le croyait capable de remplir la charge de président de la Chambre; c'était la moindre des raisons qu'il pou-

vait donner en proposant un candidat quelconque.<sup>14</sup> It was therefore, logical in him to propose him<sup>15</sup>. Pour la même raison, il serait logique pour lui de soutenir M. Cartier, puisqu'il ne peut pas dire que ce monsieur n'est pas propre à remplir la même place.<sup>16</sup> He wished his friends from Upper Canada to understand the position in which the Lower Canadians who acted with him stood. They thought that the Speaker ought on this occasion to be chosen from Lower Canada members, and thinking so, he was of opinion, without any disrespect to Mr. Sicotte, that Mr. Geo. Cartier was the person, who from his experience most enjoyed the confidence of his fellow citizens.<sup>17</sup>

The vote was about being taken when MR. MACKENZIE began a debate, by saying that he had voted for Mr. Macdonald last Session<sup>18</sup>, almost at the dictation of the Ministers,<sup>19</sup> and he was so well pleased with the gentleman's conduct, that he would not pass a censure upon him now.<sup>20</sup> He conceived that gentleman had behaved with the greatest independence, especially when the members of the House were recently driven out of doors in the most unconstitutional manner. It was no reason to allege against such a man that he lived four miles from the line of Lower Canada. Let the House then again choose that gentleman, and they would leave Mr. Cartier on the floor of the House to draw his salary of £1000 as the creature of the Grand Trunk Company, instead of control[1]ing the independence of Parliament in its favor. With regard to the other gentleman named, he would say nothing whatever. But he had a few more remarks to make on Mr. Cartier. The gentleman placed in the chair was on the road to the Bench; now he asked any member of independence if the hon. member for Verchères was the man to be placed in that position, and this by passing a vote of censure on a man who had shewn the greatest independence? The salary of the Speaker had been raised from £500 to £800, and this partly by the hon. member for Verchères, who was now to enjoy the place.--This ought not to be; but Mr. Cartier had never favored retrenchment. Obligated to resort to a ballot, however, in their caucus, the Ministry could only get forty-eight votes for him.--However that was accomplished he did not know. Mr. Spence came to the House, understood to be at least a little opposed to the Ministry, and he had that morning made a very remarkable speech, in the meeting, which contrasted wonderfully with the new light which shone out in his speech, now. Besides this alternate system was not British practice. In England the same men sat session after session as Speaker, as Mr. Lefevre was now doing. The House might however be dragged like Pharaoh's Chariot into the Red Sea by the Ministry, but there were people who would not be dragged at the wheels, and he was one of them. Mr. Cartier was not the man for him. He had become invisible when a petition for the pardon of Smith O'Brien was proposed. He meant to say nothing about Mr. Sicotte, but must remark that Mr. Macdonald was more experienced than Mr. Sicotte. Returning to the question of locality, he contended that neither Napoleon nor Wellington held command in right of their place of birth; nor ought the Speaker to be chosen on that ground. Everything was at present given to Lower Canada, and it ought not to have the Speakership too, though he could not object to that if Mr. McDonnald [sic] had been honorably disposed of. He had mentioned one act of Mr. Cartier; but that gentleman had also maintained the Court of Chancery in Upper Canada against the will of the entire people of that part of the Country. Mr. Cartier had also introduced a bill enabling a company to go into any man's garden and make a mine there. Such a man, with his Grand Trunk ties, and his other speculations could not be independent in the chair. His advent to the Chair would prove that jobbing and speculation in the funds, which have caused the recall of a Governor who had been sent to the south Seas,



was to be still continued in Canada.<sup>21</sup>

MR. LORANGER spoke in French in support of Mr. Cartier.<sup>22</sup> [He] said this was not a ministerial question, nor had Mr. Cartier been proposed by the Ministry. It was one merely of choice and fitness. Nor were the friends of Mr. Cartier actuated by any paltry spirit of nationality; but by a desire to carry out that just arrangement which had produced so far the greatest harmony between the two sections of united Canada. To cite the example of England in the case was not at all to the point in respect to a country divided as this was into races, whose equal rights ought to be preserved. Unlike the member for Montreal, he thought this matter, of rotation, one of vast importance; and being so, the speakership rested with him between the members for Verchères and St. Hyacinthe. Then as between the two, he preferred Mr. Cartier, and thought the warmth of that gentleman a greater recommendation than the diplomatic moderation of Mr. Sicotte. However, his principal reason, was the experience of Mr. Cartier--an experience which Mr. Sicotte could not possess.<sup>23</sup>

MR. PAPIN was opposed to Mr. Cartier. It was not a mere question of choice and fitness; but a question which had manifestly been considered as one of politics, and he hoped every person of independence would vote against Mr. Cartier, who, he thought, would not be independent in the chair. Then between the other candidates, he cared little for the sectional reason given in favor of Mr. Cartier, and he was proud to render his meed of praise to the conduct of Mr. McDonald in the month of June last; but it did not therefore, follow that that gentleman was to be Speaker for life.<sup>24</sup>

MR. TURCOTTE demanda aux Rouges qui se disent réformateurs, si leur intention était de se séparer du corps de ce parti, où s'ils allaient s'y rallier pour en faire un parti compact. Il dit qu'une circulaire invitant les réformateurs à se réunir hier matin, avant l'ouverture du parlement, avait été adressée à tous les membres du parti de la réforme indistinctement, afin de s'entendre définitivement ensemble sur le choix d'un seul candidat à la place d'orateur pour ce parti. Cependant, tout le parti de l'opposition s'est tenu à l'écart, s'est isolé, n'a pas voulu aller voir comment, dans cette réunion, on envisagerait les intérêts du parti de la réforme. Pourquoi, MM. les Rouges se sont-ils isolés comme cela du grand parti des réformateurs, et ont-ils conféré sur le sujet avec un parti ou des par[t]is qu'ils ont toujours considéré comme des ennemis du bien public? Quoique les Rouges n'aient pas cru intéressant pour eux d'aller à cette assemblée préparatoire du parti de la réforme, 48 se sont engagés à voter pour M. Cartier. Maintenant, ces messieurs de l'opposition peuvent-ils se prétendre réformateurs et venir dire: il est vrai que vous êtes 48 réformateurs de l'autre côté, mais nous sommes 15 nous, et nous allons rejeter votre choix? Ont-ils réfléchi que cette conduite serait de nature à jeter une semence de division dans le parti? Si les Rouges ne se fussent pas isolés, mais fussent venus à l'assemblée du matin, il y aurait eu entente, bien probablement.<sup>25</sup> Perhaps Mr. Cartier might be beaten by the rouges; but if so the rouges would aid in beating those whom they professed to count their friends, and who had shown a disposition to meet all their wishes.<sup>26</sup> Quand est-on justifiable de se servir de ses ennemis contre ses amis?<sup>27</sup>

MR. SPENCE in reply to Mr. McKenzie said that he had no idea of condemning the course of the late Speaker. As far as he knew that course he did not disapprove it. Nor did he believe Mr. Cartier to be the ministerial nominee. The ministry disavowed it.<sup>28</sup>



Opposition cheers and laughter.<sup>29</sup>

MR. SPENCE: The gentleman was the nominee of the party to which he belonged. Nor had he (Mr. Spence) received any new light since he came to Quebec. The best course was taken by the party to bring out the name of the gentleman likely to unite the most votes, and if the late Speaker and his friends were not at the meeting it was their own fault, he might perhaps otherwise have been elected. He had expressed himself strongly on the conduct of the Ministry, but this had nothing to do with the present question, where there was no ministerial nomination. He also denied that this had been made a Lower Canadian question, and he hoped the time would come when such considerations would be got rid of. The members of the reform party from Lower Canada were ready to act with any one who received the votes at the reform caucus.<sup>30</sup>

MR. J. DORION in some remarks which did not reach us very distinctly, taunted the ministerial side of the House with their pretence to consider as friends the rouges whom they had lately so constantly abused.<sup>31</sup> Il dit que les Rouges n'avaient pas voulu se rendre à l'assemblée du matin, parce qu'ils ne voulaient pas se salir en se mettant en contact avec les ministériels! ... et aussi parce que ces messieurs avaient agi comme des grossiers en adressant aux membres des circulaires sans signatures.<sup>32</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVÉAU, in French,<sup>33</sup> dit qu'on ne devait attacher aucune signification politique à l'élection de l'Orateur, et que personne n'avait plus d'intérêt que l'opposition à ce qu'on n'en fit pas une question de parti, puisque, s'il en était ainsi, l'opposition se diviserait entre elle. Si on en faisait une question de partis ou une question ministérielle, comment l'opposition libérale pourrait-elle compter sur le parti réformiste pour élire son candidat?<sup>34</sup>

[He] advised the rouges not to refer to the past, as it might bring about a policy of revenge from which they might suffer, and that they had either torn or hidden their old flag.<sup>35</sup>

MR. LABERGE ... parla en faveur de M. Sicotte.<sup>36</sup> [He] said that as Mr. Turcotte appeared to think people ought to vote always with the majority, he ought last session to have voted with the majority instead of the minority. After some further remarks in opposition to Mr. Chauveau, he expressed an opinion that Mr. McDonald merited every mark of confidence on the part of the House; but he conceived it was proper to do justice to Lower Canada. Now, if members on the other side desired conciliation among all parties, whom Mr. Turcotte professed to consider as friends, and at the same time desired to keep in view the rights of Lower Canada, Mr. Turcotte was a gentleman on whom they might have agreed. It was plain, however, from their conduct, that they desired to make the Speakership a party appointment.<sup>37</sup>

(2)

*And the Question being called for, "That George Cartier Cartier, Esquire, do take the Chair of this House, as Speaker;"*

*The House divided: and the names of the Members were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Alleyn, Bell, Bellingham, Biggar, Blanchet, Brodeur, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Church, Jean B. Daoust, DeLong, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Egan, Felton, Foley, Fortier, Fournier, Frazer, Freeman, Galt, Gill, Gould, Hincks, Hunt, Jackson, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux,*

Loranger, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Solicitor General Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, Niles, Patrick, Poulin, Pouliot, Rhodes, Roblin, Rolph, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sanborn, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Southwick, Spence, Taché, Terrill, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Whitney, Wilson, and Wright.--(59.)

(2-3)

NAYS.

Messieurs Aikins, Bourassa, Bowes, Brown, Bureau, Burton, Cameron, Casault, Cauchon, Cayley, Chisholm, Clarke, Cooke, Crysler, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Dufresne, Fergusson, Ferres, Ferrie, Gamble, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Langton, Larwill, Lumsden, Lyon, Macbeth, John S. Macdonald, John A. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Sir A.N. MacNab, McCann, McKerlie, Marchildon, Matheson, Mattice, Merritt, Murney, O'Farrell, Papin, Polette, Powell, Prévost, Robinson, Scatcherd, Shaw, Sicotte, Henry Smith, Somerville, Stevenson, Valois, Yeilding, and Young.--(62.)

So it passed in the Negative.<sup>38</sup>

(3)

The Question being then put, "That Louis Victor Sicotte, Esquire, do take the Chair of this House, as Speaker;"

The House divided: and the names of the Members were taken down, as follow:--

YEAS.

Messieurs Atkins, Alleyn, Blanchet, Bourassa, Brodeur, Bureau, Cartier, Casault, Cauchon, Cayley, Chabot, Chauveau, Cooke, Crysler, Charles Daoust, Jean B. Daoust, Darche, DeLong, Desaulniers, DeWitt, Dionne, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Attorney General Drummond, Dufresne, Felton, Ferres, Foley, Fournier, Frazer, Freeman, Gill, Gould, Guévremont, Hartman, Hincks, Holton, Huot, Jackson, Jobin, Labelle, Laberge, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Lyon, McCann, Marchildon, Mongenais, Morin, Solicitor General Morrison, Angus Morrison, Niles, O'Farrell, Papin, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Prévost, Rhodes, Roblin, Rolph, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Shaw, Henry Smith, James Smith, Southwick, Taché, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Valois, Wilson, Weilding, and Young.--(76.)

NAYS.

Messieurs Bell, Bellingham, Bowes, Brown, Burton, Cameron, Chapais, Chisholm, Church, Clarke, Egan, Fergusson, Ferrie, Fortier, Galt, Gamble, Langton, Larwill, Lumsden, Macbeth, John A. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Sir A.N. MacNab, McKerlie, Matheson, Mattice, Merritt, Munro, Murney, Patrick, Powell, Robinson, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Sidney Smith, Somerville, Spence, Stevenson, Whitney, and Wright.--(41.)

So it was resolved in the Affirmative.<sup>39</sup>

And the Clerk having declared Louis Victor Sicotte, Esquire, duly elected, he was conducted to the Chair by Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion and Mr. Hartman;

(4)

where, standing on the upper step, he returned his humble acknowledgements to the House for the great honor they had been pleased to confer upon him, by choosing him to be their Speaker.

And thereupon he sat down in the Chair; and the Mace (which before lay under the Table) was laid upon the Table.

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS rising stated, on behalf of those who had been opposed to his election, that that election having been carried, he was sure

every member would on all occasions render him their best support.<sup>40</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB [lui promet] le respect de son parti.<sup>41</sup>

(4)

*Then, Mr. Henry Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion, That this House do now adjourn;*

*And the House accordingly adjourned until To-morrow.*

## FOOTNOTES: 5 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. MACKENZIE's WEEKLY MESSAGE, 8 September 1854, noted that "there was a good attendance--altogether, 120 members being present."
2. The TORONTO LEADER, 11 September 1854, commenting on the debate on the election of the Speaker, noted: "The members of the ministry took no part in the affair, not one of them speaking except Mr. Chauveau, in French, in reply to some remarks of a member on the other side of the House."
3. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
4. LA MINERVE, 9 September, 1854.
5. TORONTO LEADER, 9 September 1854.
6. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
7. IBID.
8. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.
9. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
10. IBID.
11. IBID.
12. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 7 September 1854).
13. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
14. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.
15. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
16. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.
17. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
18. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 7 September 1854).
19. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
20. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 7 September 1854).
21. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
22. TORONTO LEADER, 9 September 1854, which noted, "He is speaking now at four o'clock as the mail closes." LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854, remarked that "M. Loranger fit, sur cette question, un début très-heureux dans la carrière parlementaire."
23. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
24. PILOT, 9 September 1854. Papin spoke "comme un écolier qui a mal appris son discours," according to LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.
25. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.
26. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
27. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.
28. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
29. IBID.
30. IBID.
31. IBID.
32. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.
33. TORONTO LEADER, 11 September 1854.
34. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.
35. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
36. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854, which commented that "M. Laberge fut celui des jeunes membres de l'opposition qui fit le meilleur début."
37. PILOT, 9 September 1854.
38. The Quebec correspondent of the NORTH AMERICAN, 13 September 1854, reported as follows on the taking of this vote: "The moment was one of intense interest. The Ministry had counted noses in the morning and expected a majority of four. The Clerk began to sum up the names.--He was dreadfully slow. The large number of new members and the consequent



confusion in taking the vote had prevented any but 'old stagers' from making an accurate count. Yet before the Clerk was able to announce the numbers, an ominous whisper crossed the House from the opposition side, 'beaten by three votes'! Ministers looked grave and slightly pale. The Clerk rose,--

--"An awful stillness reigned."

He announced in a hard, dry voice, 'Yeas fifty-nine; Nays sixty-one.' Then came a shout from the opposition benches, clapping of hands, but not a syllable from Ministers or their supporters. The long faces in that quarter were a study. From my position I could not see the 'Emperor,' but I kept my eye on the President of the Council. That imperturbable countenance could not hide the deep chagrin of the heart. The eyebrows were raised and lowered with nervous energy; the color 'went and came,' the lips were compressed, and every feature gave evidence that angry, disagreeable and tumultuous feelings filled the breast.... The name of Mr. Ferrie had been omitted by the Clerk, which, having voted with the nays, made 62, or a majority of three against the Ministerial candidate."

39. The Quebec correspondent of the NORTH AMERICAN, 13 September 1854, reported as follows on the taking of this vote: "Mr. Sicotte's name stood next. The Ministry had now to choose between him and Mr. McDonald, and as was anticipated, they took the first as the least bitter pill of the two. They showed their reluctance by a rather discreditable manoeuvre. The 'rouge' party rose in a body. Three or four tories and several Upper Canada Reformers also rose on both sides of the House. Ministers and their party sat still till the Clerk had taken the vote on both sides, and seeing that the yeas would be in a minority, just as the Clerk was about to call the nays, up pops Hincks and his followers after him. This manoeuvre of course gave Mr. Sicotte a majority and settled the question."

Mr. Hincks remembered the incident as follows: "When that gentleman [Mr. Sicotte] was proposed he did not get a vote from the ministerial side of the House, as we all sat still until the votes of his own supporters were recorded. When the last one was taken, to the utter consternation of the opposition, as I saw from their countenances, I rose, and gave my vote for Mr. Sicotte, Mr. Morin, who sat beside me, voted next, and then one by one the ministerial supporters followed our example, and Mr. Sicotte was placed in the chair by a large majority" (Reminiscences of His Public Life. Montreal: William Drysdale, 1884. Page 318.).

40. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 7 September 1854).

41. LA MINERVE, 9 September 1854.



WEDNESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(4)

THE House being met; and Mr. Speaker elect having taken the Chair;  
A Message was brought by René Kimber, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:--

Mr. Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Legislative Council Chamber.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker elect, with the House, went to the Council Chamber.<sup>1</sup>  
And there Mr. Speaker spoke to the following effect, viz:--

May it please Your Excellency,

The Legislative Assembly have elected me as their Speaker, though I am very little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Assembly, whose servant I am, and who, through me, humbly claim, to enable them the better to discharge their duty to Her Majesty and their Country, all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have Freedom of Speech in their Debates, access to Your Excellency's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings, may receive from Your Excellency the most favorable interpretation.

Then the Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Council said:--

Mr. Speaker,

I am commanded, by His Excellency the Governor General, to declare to you, that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the Assembly to Her Majesty's Person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper, and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow, their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also, to assure you, that the Assembly shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favorable construction.

The House being returned;

Mr. Speaker reported, That the House had been in the Legislative Council Chamber, and that he had informed His Excellency that the choice of Speaker had fallen upon him; and also, that he had, in their name and on their behalf, by

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humble Petition to His Excellency, laid claim to all their rights and privileges, that they may enjoy Freedom of Speech in their Debates, and have access to His Excellency's person as occasion shall require, and that all their proceedings may receive from His Excellency the most favorable construction; to which His Excellency had been pleased to say, that he readily and willingly granted and allowed them their constitutional privileges, as well as ready access to His Excellency on all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings, as well as their words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favorable construction.

George Crawford, Esquire, Member for the Town of Brockville, having previously taken the Oath according to Law, and subscribed before the Commissioners the Roll containing the same, took his Seat in the House.

*Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Hincks have [leave] to bring in a bill to provide for the administration of the Oaths of Office to persons appointed to be Justices of the Peace in this Province.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.*

*Mr. Speaker reported, That when the House did attend His Excellency the Governor General, this day, in the Legislative Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Provincial Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, to prevent mistakes, obtained a Copy; which he read to the House, as followeth:--*

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,  
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

*It affords me much satisfaction to meet you. The increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will, I trust, give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has hitherto existed for the due representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province.*

*Subjects of great magnitude and importance will necessarily come under your consideration during the Session which is now commencing.*

*The Imperial Parliament, proceeding with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed two Acts which impose on this Legislature responsibilities of a very grave character.*

*One of these Acts empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council. The substitution of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown, in the appointment of Members of that Body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience, as Parliamentary government and Ministerial responsibility in the British sense of the term, are, for the most part unknown to the Constitutions of Countries, where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers. In order, however, to give to this important branch of the Legislature, the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some changes in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required; and the difficulties to which I have referred will, I trust, be surmounted by your wisdom, and by the patriotism of the Members of that honorable Body.*

*The other Act of the Imperial Parliament removes the restrictions which have for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves. From an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision, which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the*

*(6)*

*Province. It is most desirable, in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner. I trust, therefore, that you will be able without difficulty to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object, which will give general satisfaction.*

*The condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will also, it may be presumed, engage your attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of certain questions affecting them which cannot be kept in*



suspense without detriment to the interests both of Seigniors and Censitaires,-- you will, no doubt, see the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested. Security of property is an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada, must look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which, in a neighbouring Country, is afforded by judicial tribunals.

You may probably take into consideration the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions of Lower Canada in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which, since its introduction, has contributed so materially to the prosperity of Upper Canada, and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. On these and other subjects of importance measures will be submitted for your deliberation.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I will direct the Public Accounts for the past year and the Estimates for the current year to be laid before you; and I rely on your readiness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service.

Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

You may probably be of opinion that the prosperous condition of the Revenue affords an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect raw materials employed in Ship building and other branches of manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others to which articles entering largely into the consumption of the people are now subject.

I will lay before you the Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's subjects in British North America on the one hand, and of the Citizens of the United States on the other; and I recommend to your consideration the propriety of amending the Act passed in 1849 for the free admission into Canada of certain articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty.

The Government and Congress of the United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and I trust that they will be met by a corresponding spirit by the Provincial Legislatures.

The removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada into the markets of the United States will, it may be hoped, have a tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province.

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS moved to go on with the address.<sup>2</sup> [He] said, if it was the wish of the House, to proceed with the consideration of the address as he thought he heard suggested on the other side, the Administration were quite ready to do so.<sup>3</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB objected to proceed with the speech, until Members had had the opportunity of seeing the speech printed. He said that no copy had been sent to the leader of the opposition as was the custom, and this side of the House could not be prepared before Thursday to discuss the question.<sup>4</sup> [He] stated that the usual practice here was to allow members one day for the consideration of the Speech before commencing the debate on the address. He believed also that that was the practice in England.<sup>5</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS had formerly thought so, but he had recently found

that the practice in England was to go on with the debate immediately. He believed, however, it was the custom there to communicate the speech to the mover and seconder of the address the night before, and also to the leader of the opposition. But that course might be inconvenient here, as the leaders of the opposition were so numerous (laughter.)<sup>6</sup> He was very willing to acknowledge the hon. and gallant knight as the leader of her Majesty's opposition in the House. But inasmuch as there were as many as four or five distinct parties in the opposition, and of course a leader to each party, it would be difficult to furnish each with a copy of the address. He cited the gallant Member for Hamilton as the Conservative opposition; one of the hon. members for Montreal as leader of another section ("young Canada") the hon. member for Montmorenci, and the hon. member for Lambton, as leaders of other sections, while the hon. member for Glengarry, (Macdonald) might also, peradventure, form another section.<sup>7</sup> (Renewed laughter.) In short he did not know how many leaders it must have been communicated to.<sup>8</sup> Mr. Hincks ... said it would be difficult under such circumstances to define who would be leaders of the opposition, and impossible to give copies before the meeting of the House, without the risk, or rather certainty, of making the speech public, by the multiplication of copies before the speech is delivered.<sup>9</sup> He had, under the circumstances, no objection to accede to the request of the hon. and gallant Knight, and defer the debate till to-morrow. The address should be a mere echo of the Speech.<sup>10</sup> Mr. Hincks concluded, by moving that the consideration of the address be proceeded with on Thursday.<sup>11</sup>

A few words [came] from MR. ROBINSON which did not reach the reporters' gallery<sup>12</sup>.

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*On motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin, Ordered, That the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both*

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*Houses of the Provincial Legislature be taken into consideration, To-morrow.*

*Ordered, That the Clerk do charge to the Contingencies of this House, the Postage on all Letters and Printed Papers to and from Members of this House, during the present Session.*

*Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by Mr. Speaker; and that he do appoint the printing thereof; and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.*

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS put a motion to appoint the standing committee of the House. He would not, however, communicate their names for a few days.<sup>13</sup>

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*On motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin, Resolved, That Select Standing Committees of this House for the present Session be appointed for the following purposes:--1. On Privileges and Elections. 2. On Expiring Laws. 3. On Railroads, Canals, and Telegraph Lines. 4. On Miscellaneous Private Bills. 5. On Standing Orders. 6. On Printing. 7. On Contingencies. 8. On the Public Accounts; which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House, and to report from time to time, their observations and opinions thereon; with power to send for persons, papers, and records.*

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Brown,--Five Petitions of the Municipal Council of the County of Kent; the Petition of the Municipal Council of the County of Lambton; the Petition of Daniel W. Metler; and the Petitions of Sheffield Division, No. 363; of Bear Creek Division, No. 52; of Stewarttown Division, No. 75; of Arthur Advance Division, No. 213; of Innisfil Division, No. 177; of Blenheim Division, No. 57; of Erie Division, No. 145; of Elora Division, No. 272; of Warwick Division, No. 20; of Refuge Division, No. 215; and of Arthur Central Division, No. 13, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Solicitor General Morrison,--The Petition of Peter Freeland and others, Members and friends of the Upper Canada Religious Tract and Book Society; the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Niagara; the Petition of the Sydenham Harbour Company; and the Petition of W.H. Smith and others, of the Province of Canada, Shareholders in the Provident Life Assurance and Investment Company.

By Mr. Wilson,--The Petition of William Barker and others, of the Town of London; the Petition of the Town Council of the Town of London; and the Petition of Bartholomew Galvin, of the Town of London.

By Mr. Roderick McDonald,--The Petition of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Cornwall.

By Mr. Jobin,--The Petition of P.B. Lafrenière and others, of the Parish of Berthier, District of Montreal.

By the Honorable Mr. Merritt,--The Petitions of Grimsby Division, No. 153; of Ravine Division, No. 73; of Smithville Division, No. 148; of Beacon Light Division, No. 361; and of Monument Division, No. 411, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; the Petition of the President, Directors and Company of the Port Dalhousie and Thorold Railway Company; and the Petition of the President, Directors and Company of the Louth Harbour.

By Mr. Freeman,--The Petition of the Municipality of the United Counties of Wentworth and Halton.

By Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion,--The Petition of Hilaire Allard and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; the Petition of J.E. Ferte and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; the Petition of Charles Charpentier, senior, and others, of

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the Village of L'Avenir; and the Petition of W.S. Griffin and others, of the Village of L'Avenir.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin,

The House adjourned.



## FOOTNOTES: 6 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. PILOT, 8 September 1854, described the scene as follows: "His Excellency the Governor General arrived in the House at a quarter past 3, P.M., attended by a military staff and by his Private Secretary. A Guard of Honor awaited his arrival, and the Music Hall, in which the sittings of the Assembly are held, was filled by the rank, beauty, and fashion of the Provinces. We believe full two thousand persons must have been assembled in the Hall." TORONTO LEADER, 11 September 1854, estimated the crowd to be "over fifteen hundred."
2. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 9 September 1854). Mr. Mackenzie, writing during the debate on this motion, remarked: "Mr. Speaker Sicotte looks very well in the chair, and will make a good presiding officer, but he reads the motion so low that I do not hear a word of it" (MACKENZIE's WEEKLY MESSAGE, 15 September 1854).
3. PILOT, 8 September 1854.
4. IBID.
5. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 9 September 1854).
6. IBID.
7. PILOT, 8 September 1854.
8. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 9 September 1854).
9. PILOT, 8 September 1854.
10. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 9 September 1854).
11. PILOT, 8 September 1854.
12. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 9 September 1854).
13. IBID.



THURSDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 1854.

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ARTHUR RANKIN, Esquire, Member for the County of Essex, having previously taken the Oath according to Law, and subscribed before the Commissioners the Roll containing the same, took his Seat in the House.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House, a Report of the Librarian of the Legislative Assembly on the state of the Joint Library of Parliament; which Report is as followeth:--

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled.

The Librarian begs leave respectfully to Report, That in the interval of time which has elapsed since the last meeting of Your Honorable House, in June last, no change whatever of condition or locality has taken place in the Library, with the exception that a case of Books, chiefly on legal subjects, which had been long missing, having failed to reach us in due course by the Ocean Steamer from England, has been received. The contents are in good condition, and have been placed in their proper class in the collection.

At the meeting of Parliament in the month of June, Your Librarian had the honor to submit a detailed Report on the state and condition of the Library, accounting for the damage done to the Books, estimating the extent of loss sustained, and the number of Volumes saved, from the fire which consumed the Parliament Buildings on the first day of February in the present year.

To that Report Your Librarian respectfully begs leave to refer Your Honorable House for any information which may be desired on subjects connected with the present condition of the Library under his charge.

A classified Catalogue of all the Books in the Library of Parliament had been prepared and was ready for printing when the disastrous fire of the first day of February occurred. This Catalogue was saved, with the exception of a portion of it, according to the works on the History, Topography, &c., of the American Continent; but as the various sections and classes in the Library, generally, were much mutilated, and in some instances, entirely destroyed by the fire, it has not been thought advisable to incur the expense of printing any portion of it, without the sanction of Your Honorable House, except the Legal and Constitutional sections, which are absolutely necessary for reference during the Session of the Legislature.

Your Librarian would, however, respectfully observe, that reference can be had to the aforesaid Manuscript Catalogue of the remaining sections, on application to the Librarian.

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All which is humbly and respectfully submitted,

William Winder,  
Librarian.

Library of Parliament,  
Quebec, 5th September, 1854.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House, a Report of the Medical Superintendent, and Bursar's state of the Income and Expenditure of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, at Toronto, as required by the Act 15 & 16 Vic. cap. 188.

For the said Report, see Appendix (II.)

And also, Accounts of the Trustees of the Montreal Turnpike Roads, to 30th June, 1854.

For the said Accounts, see Appendix (I.)

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Brodeur,--The Petition of the Reverend L.M. Archambault, of the Parish of St. Hugues de Ramsay, County of Bagot.

By Mr. James Smith,--The Petition of the Commissioners of the Port Hope Harbour; and the Petition of the Peterborough and Port Hope Railway Company.

By Mr. Sidney Smith,--The Petition of the Reverend Gideon Shepard, Secretary, on behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

By Mr. Crawford,--The Petition of the Brockville and Ottawa Railway Company.

By Mr. Terrill,--The Petition of Lewis Rose and others, of the County of Stanstead.

By Mr. Somerville,--The Petition of James Reid, President, and F.W. Sherriff, Secretary, on behalf of the Huntingdon Academy; and the Petition of James Reid, President, and F.W. Sherriff, Secretary, on behalf of the Directors of the Huntingdon Academy Association.

By Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion,--The Petition of the Reverend P.H. Suzor and others, of the Parish of St. Christophe d'Arthabaska; the Petition of N.A. Beaudet and others, of the Parish of St. Christophe d'Arthabaska; the Petition of John George Crébassa, President, and others, on behalf of the Library Association and Mechanics' Institute of Sorel; the Petition of R.N. Watts, Esquire, and others; the Petition of the Reverend P.H. Suzor and others, of Arthabaska, and other Townships in the Judiciary Circuit of Arthabaska; the Petition of Stanislas Picher and others, of the Township of Bulstrode; the Petition of Godefroy Liévain and others, of the Township of Bulstrode; and the Petition of the Municipality of the Town or Borough of William Henry, known as Sorel.

By Mr. Stevenson,--The Petition of Wellington Division, No. 40, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Fortier,--The Petition of His Grace the Archbishop of Quebec and others, Members of the Corporation of the Seminary of Nicolet.

By Mr. Hartman,--The Petition of Laskay Division, No. 226, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Bureau,--The Petition of Alexis Bisson and others, of St. Rémi.

By Mr. Holton,--The Petition of the Montreal Ladies Benevolent Society; and the Petition of the Bank of Montreal.

By Mr. Valois,--The Petition of Gabriel Valois, Esquire, School Commissioner of Pointe Claire; and the Petition of the Reverend J.B. St. Germain, of the Parish of St. Laurent, County of Montreal.

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By Mr. Solicitor General Ross,--The Petition of the Reverend Louis Proulx, Curé of Ste. Marie de la Nouvelle Beauce.

By Mr. Patrick,--The Petitions of Triumph Division, No. 351; and of Oxford Division, No. 383, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By the Honorable Mr. Young,--The Petition of the Corporation of the College of Ste. Marie, at Montreal; and the Petition of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Montreal.

By Mr. Frazer,--Two Petitions of the Municipality of the Township of Wainfleet.

By Mr. Lemieux,--The Petition of the Reverend H. Routier and others, of the Parish of St. Joseph, Pointe Levi; and the Petition of the Reverend L.D. Deziel and others, of the Parish of Notre Dame de la Victoire.

By Mr. Henry Smith,--The Petitions of Wilton Division, No. 50; and of

*Gananoque Division, No. 6, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; the Petition of William Ford, the younger, and others, of the City of Kingston, and others; and the Petition of the Grand Division of the Order of the Sons of Temperance of Canada West.*

*By Mr. Powell,--The Petition of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Bytown.*

*By the Honorable Mr. Cameron,--The Petition of John Jeremy Macaulay, of the City of Toronto, Esquire.*

MR. J. DORION moved as a matter of privilege that the poll books<sup>1</sup> and all the papers<sup>2</sup> of the Returning Officer for the County of Bagot should be brought up by the Clerk of the Crown in chancery.<sup>3</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND asked if there were any petition against the return.<sup>4</sup>

MR. J. DORION: No: he treated it as a question of privilege.<sup>5</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND objected to the motion, on the ground that no notice of it had been given. It was true that on some questions of privilege no notice was required; but<sup>6</sup> if it were intended to attack the seat of any member<sup>7</sup> the practice of the House had made notice necessary. It was a matter of courtesy among gentlemen that notice should be given in this case.<sup>8</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN thought the Attorney General had not gone far enough. The mover of the motion ought to state the object of making it.<sup>9</sup>

MR. CAUCHON conceived that this was unnecessary, the precedent was to be found in the case of the County of Oxford<sup>10</sup>, in 1847,<sup>11</sup> in which proceedings exactly similiar (*sic*) to those now proposed were taken. The House then examined the return before proceeding to the Address & sat till 5 o'clock in the morning, when the return was corrected, Mr. Hincks' name inserted instead of that of the gentleman returned and Mr. Hincks took his seat.<sup>12</sup>

MR. H. SMITH of Frontenac said, the case referred to by the last speaker was exactly in point<sup>13</sup>, [and] mentioned several other cases of the same kind which occurred in the same session--Beauharnois, Three Rivers, and Gaspé.<sup>14</sup> The poll books ought to be produced in order that it might be seen whether there was any irregularity on the face of them.<sup>15</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB did not think this one of those questions of privilege that could be taken up without notice; but it was desirable to test the matter and see whether the statements in the newspapers were correct.<sup>16</sup> On looking at the return, [he] found T. Bordeur (*sic*), Returning Officer had returned T. Bordeur (*sic*) as member of Parliament.<sup>17</sup>

MR. J. DORION thought gentlemen opposite were excessively sticklish on this subject, though they were by no means so sticklish when the matter concerned their own friends. His motion was word for word the same as that of Mr. Notman, in 1848, with respect to Oxford, and he thought it unnecessary to say that he had as an ulterior object the ascertaining if the person claiming the seat were regularly elected.<sup>18</sup>

MR. H. SMITH of Frontenac called upon the hon. member for Bagot to rise and declare whether he<sup>19</sup> had really returned himself.<sup>20</sup>

(10)

*On motion of Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion, seconded by Mr. Casault, Ordered, That the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery do forthwith attend this*



*House with the Return of the last Election for the County of Bagot, together with the Poll Books, if any there be, and all other papers, letters, and documents, which may have been transmitted to him by the Returning Officer for the said County.*

*The Clerk of the Crown in Chancery attended, according to Order, with the Poll Book and Return of the last Election for the County of Bagot, and laid the same before the House.*

MR. J. DORION explained to the House that there being no resident registrar in that county Mr. Brodeur had been specially named returning officer. He took the oath and acted as such, and in that capacity had returned himself as duly elected. The question now raised was whether a returning officer could return himself, and again whether if he could, a returning officer was eligible to a seat in the House. On the latter head he read the 2nd sect. of the Act of the last Parliament to restrain persons holding places from the Crown from sitting in Parliament, which he thought conclusive in the negative. Mr. Brodeur at the time of his election held office of Postmaster as well as of Returning officer. In conclusion, he moved that the return be now read.<sup>21</sup>

(10)

*Ordered, That the said Return be now read.*

*And the same was read accordingly.*

*Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion moved, seconded by Mr. Bourassa, and the Question being proposed, That Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, Returning Officer for the County of Bagot, be required to attend forthwith at the Bar of this House, to answer to such questions as may be legally put to him concerning the Election for the said County;*

A discussion followed in French<sup>22</sup>.

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU asked for a postponement, in order that the gentleman might have time to answer.<sup>23</sup>

MR. PAPIN said no time could be required to enable Mr. Brodeur to speak to his own identity.<sup>24</sup> It would only unnecessarily prolong the question.<sup>25</sup>

MR. CAMERON did not approve the course proposed<sup>26</sup>. The member for Bagot ought to be interrogated at once on the subject, as he was liable, if the charges made were correct, to a penalty of £500 for every day that he sat in the House<sup>27</sup> while holding prohibited offices. The proper way was to move that the returning officer, who was an officer of the House, should come to the bar and be examined.<sup>28</sup>

MR. LORANGER thought in cases of privilege the House should proceed with the greatest strictness and prudence, and therefore that further proceedings in this case should be postponed for a day or two to give time for deliberations.<sup>29</sup>

MR. CAUCHON believed the House had nothing to do with the fine of £500 which was a question for the legal tribunals; but the question of privilege was to be decided at once. If this gentleman were not a member of the House, he ought not to sit in it an hour, and it was this consideration which made the House proceed so summarily in 1848. Without this the independence of the House would be lost.<sup>30</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN in reference to Mr. Cameron's observations held that it was the same thing, if Mr. Brodeur were to be asked to criminate himself whether it were done in one capacity or another. As to whether Returning



Officers could return themselves, he reserved his opinion; but he believed in England it had once been the practice, when there were no other candidates for the Sheriffs to return themselves.<sup>31</sup>

MR. CAMERON said the House could call up Mr. Brodeur as returning officer to interrogate him as to what he did in that capacity. As a member of the House he could not be so interrogated. The distinction was clear, and the authority indisputable.<sup>32</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND admitted the power of the House to call a returning officer to the bar of the House to interrogate him as to what took place at the election; but beyond that the House could not go. The law relating to controverted elections had been entirely changed<sup>33</sup> since the precedent, which had been cited took place,<sup>34</sup> and this was the first time the House had been called upon to set a precedent since the passing of that law. He thought that a regard for the privileges of the House and the liberties of the people required that the matter should be treated with caution. The question was one for<sup>35</sup> an election committee. He believed indeed, that<sup>36</sup> when a person became a candidate he ceased to be returning officer; and that the return made by him under such circumstances would be null and void. It did not however<sup>37</sup>, necessarily<sup>38</sup> follow that his seat was vacated.<sup>39</sup> According to his view of the case, the returning officer ceased to be so from the moment he was nominated as a candidate. The duty of carrying on the election then fell to the poll clerk, and that person ought now to be called on to make the regular and formal return, that was all. However, as he knew nothing about the case, and wanted time for consideration he would move the postponement of the further consideration of the question till next day.<sup>40</sup>

MR. A. DORION referred to the allegation of Mr. Cameron, that members illegally returned were subject to a penalty of £500 a day for every day they sat in the House. The penalty applied to a certain class of officers, but not to the Returning Officer<sup>41</sup>, therefore what had been said on that head ... fell to the ground.<sup>42</sup> He held however, that the member for Bagot was bound to answer any questions that might be put to him by the House<sup>43</sup> as the penalties were not criminal but civil ones.<sup>44</sup> A returning officer might be compelled to answer in a court of justice in Lower Canada regarding his conduct; and he thought the same questions might be put to him at the bar of the House.<sup>45</sup> The case was one of great importance for he had two other motions of a similar kind to make, and he could not but regard it as extraordinary that all the irregularities were on the ministerial side of the House. Referring to precedents he found that Mr. Daly had once been examined in the way now proposed; but without any notice being given, and that on a motion by a person no less careful than Mr. Baldwin seconded by Mr. Price.<sup>46</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS agreed with the member for Montreal, that the question was one of more importance than some might be willing to admit. He said this in reference to the friends of the member for Montreal. There was no evidence of identity<sup>47</sup> proved in this case,<sup>48</sup> and the House could not assume that Timothy Brodeur, who was returning officer, was the same Timothy Brodeur who was returned as member of this House. This was a thing that could not be assumed; the fact must be proved before the House could proceed to the interrogations referred to in the motion.<sup>49</sup> It was therefore outrageous to attempt by an inquisitor[i]al process like that which prevailed in some Continental Courts, to attempt to extract a conviction out of the gentleman's own confession. He might be brought up and asked about these papers himself. He should

reply that he knew nothing about it. So might Mr. Brodeur, there was no proof of identity whatever.<sup>50</sup>

[There were] a few words from MR. POULIOT in favor of postponement<sup>51</sup>.

MR. SOL. GEN. J. MORRISON thought the proper course of proceeding was to summon the returning officer.... There was no petition; but it was not therefore to be said that the House was not to proceed in a matter affecting its privileges.<sup>52</sup>

More than an hour's debate in French [ensued,]<sup>53</sup>

MR. TURCOTTE, expressed his sorrow at the illiberality of the liberals opposite, who desired to make a member of that House answer in a way that no Court would compel him to answer in an affair of 5s. If Mr. Brodeur, was to be thus examined why should not the Hon. member for Drummond be interrogated likewise as to whether his opponent voters were not driven away from the polls. There must in fact be a general confession all round. But suppose Mr. Brodeur refused to answer, what would the House do? Would they send him to prison? He thought they would not proceed so far.<sup>54</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU urged similar considerations.<sup>55</sup>

MR. LABERGE thought the evident intention of postponement was to retain in his seat for a long time a gentleman having no right in the House. The election Committee was for the trial of the controverted elections, not for cases where the return was bad on the face of it.<sup>56</sup>

MR. WILSON said he understood that Mr. Brodeur was returning officer and became a candidate; but it did not follow that the election was void. He saw nothing in the act of Parliament to prevent a returning officer being a candidate; but when he become (*sic*) so he ceased to be returning officer and it was the duty of the clerk to make the return. The House could not amend the return without having proof of the facts which he (Mr. W.) had assumed. The return might be irregular; but it had not been contended that the election was irregular. The return only appeared to be wrong; and he saw no reason why the clerk should not be called to the bar of the House and the return amended.<sup>57</sup> [Mr. Brodeur] ... could not be compelled to answer and ... the matter should go to a Committee.<sup>58</sup>

MR. H. SMITH, (Frontenac) believed the hon. gentleman, who spoke last could not have read the writ addressed to Returning Officers which expressly directed them not to return Returning Officers.<sup>59</sup> [He] then read from the writ a prohibition to returning officers to become candidates.<sup>60</sup>

MR. WILSON replied that that was the old form of writ, but that it was unauthorized by any existing statute.<sup>61</sup>

MR. H. SMITH continued.<sup>62</sup> Well at any rate, the only question now was whether the House should get at the facts. For his own part he had<sup>63</sup> been to the library<sup>64</sup>, [and] searched the books,<sup>65</sup> and he found that for 200 years there was no instance in which a member who<sup>66</sup> presumed to return himself<sup>67</sup> was not summarily turned out of the House<sup>68</sup> of Commons.... The privileges of the House did not depend on statute law, but were always asserted by the House itself. Before sitting down he could not help animadverting on the conduct of Her Majesty's Government, who by each one in turn taking up the defence of the returning officer, had made the debate assume a party character, and had all come to the same conclusions though for different reasons. The Attorney General said that if the returning officer and the member were the same person

the return was a nullity. That was just what he (Mr. Smith) held, yet on the faith of a nullity, that gentleman was supported in keeping his seat and giving his vote. The Solicitor General, on the contrary, said the House might as well question him. Well, that hon. gentleman, he thought, did not know much about any thing; but the returning officer was just the man who did know, and therefore the proper one to be asked.<sup>69</sup> If, as had been contended, the returning officer ceased to sustain that character when he became a candidate, there could be no election. The question was whether the House would allow its privileges to be invaded by permitting one of its servants to return himself.<sup>70</sup> He wanted to know if there were in England or Canada any case before of a man thus putting himself into the House. If there were he would give it ... consideration; but in the meantime, the question was not if the gentleman should lose his seat; but if the House should get at the facts.<sup>71</sup>

MR. FOLEY thought before questioning the officer<sup>72</sup> it rested with the gentlemen on the other side of the House to make out a prima facie case<sup>73</sup> of wrongdoing ... after which he might be examined to support the charge.<sup>74</sup> But they had not done so. The only case that had been alluded to as a parallel case<sup>75</sup>, the case of Mr. Vansittart<sup>76</sup>, was no parallel case at all. In the case of the hon. Inspector General, in 1847, alluded to, there was a prima facie case made out. The poll books were produced, and upon the face of them it appeared that<sup>77</sup> the candidate who had the minority of votes had been returned. That was a case of injustice which the House must remedy at once. In this case no injustice had been done any one; no one suffered.<sup>78</sup> Did the people of Bagot complain of the return of this gentleman being returned?<sup>79</sup> Mr. Brodeur was clearly the unanimous choice of the electors.<sup>80</sup> The accusing parties were bound to make out a prima facie case.<sup>81</sup>

MR. CARTIER demanded to know from the mover of this motion in what way the privileges of the House had been infringed<sup>82</sup> by Mr. Brodeur. He thought the true breach of privilege, was the present proceeding, which since the late election law was clearly against the rules of Parliament.<sup>83</sup> The motion was more than irregular: it was itself a breach of privilege. The House could not even entertain it. The motion did not disclose any breach of privilege.<sup>84</sup> The motion at least if it were good at all ought to contain some allegation that a breach of privilege had been committed.<sup>85</sup> And no breach of privilege would have taken place even if the gentleman who sits for Bagot was the same as he who was returning officer. In that case, the return would be irregular, but there would be no breach of the privileges of the House.<sup>86</sup> The House had no right to compel any member to satisfy curiosity by answering questions, for the House was elected not to answer questions but to deliberate and legislate.<sup>87</sup>

MR. J. DORION, who spoke in French, said he could not permit the member for Vercheres to state that there were no precedents in the Parliament of England for inquiring into the return of a member, he being his own returning officer. He quoted a case in which a member was returning officer and sheriff and had returned himself, and had been summarily unseated for returning himself.<sup>88</sup> The next, was that of the Canadian Parliament in 1848, when on the motion of Mr. Baldwin seconded by Mr. Price, Mr. D. Daly was examined in his place touching the Hamilton election. On the same day, again on motion of Mr. Baldwin, seconded by Mr. Price, Sir A. McNab was examined in the chair, among these voting aye were almost all the present ministry. These cases went directly to the point instead of wandering 300 miles away as the debate had done in the hands of gentlemen opposite. He would here mention that he had seen in the office of the Clerk in Chancery a correspondence in which<sup>89</sup> Mr. Timothy Brodeur<sup>90</sup> had



asked whether<sup>91</sup>, as some of the constituency desired him to come forward, he could legally<sup>92</sup> offer himself as a candidate being the returning officer<sup>93</sup>. The Clerk replied by saying he thought<sup>94</sup> that the two qualities were utterly incompatible and that if he assumed them he must take the responsibility. He did not however wonder at the way in which the matter was treated by gentlemen opposite because he knew that Mr. Brodeur had been elected to support the views of the hon. member now in the chair; but had been brought round to vote with the other side of the House. It was this conduct which encouraged the most glaring attack on the rights of the people, attacks which were defended by the leaders of the House, who with the present system of patronage had the means of influencing three fourths of the elections throughout the country.<sup>95</sup>

MR. FREEMAN said the difficulty suggested by the hon. and learned member for Toronto still remained that<sup>96</sup> according to judicial decisions in England no man could be called upon to answer a question which would deprive him of a legal right<sup>97</sup>, nor if you did you could not constrain him to answer, and could not punish him if he refused to answer.<sup>98</sup> The answers to the questions which were to be proposed to Mr. Brodeur would expose him to lose his seat and also to punishment, such as the House might think fit to indict for a breach of tis (sic) privileges. He therefore thought the facts ought perhaps to be got at some other way. At the same time he could not conceive the election could be maintained. A returning officer could not suddenly cease to be so and become a candidate. When did he cease to be one and become the other? Who conducted the proceedings up to the moment of his being proposed?<sup>99</sup>

MR. FELTON followed on the same side and said the House would certainly involve itself in much difficulty by calling the member before the House, not having the power to force an answer.<sup>100</sup> The House could only proceed according to the rules governing judicial proceedings and that therefore Mr. Brodeur could not be examined in the manner proposed.<sup>101</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND admitted that the House had the power to call the Returning Officer before it<sup>102</sup> to answer such questions as the House might choose to ask him, the only matter for consideration was to what tribunal the facts should be referred.<sup>103</sup> [He] appealed to the House to proceed with moderation and dignity. He said the privileges of the British House of Commons were not established for the benefit of the members solely, but for the advantage of the electors, and he thought it was the duty of the House to call upon the Returning Officer Timothy Brodeur to attend at the Bar of the House to-morrow.<sup>104</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB could not understand the sense of this proceeding. It was a matter of public notoriety that Timothée Brodeur had returned himself.<sup>105</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND wished everything done with deliberation so as to establish no precedents that might be injurious hereafter.<sup>106</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. J. MORRISON said that in a legal point of view the expression forthwith would give a latitude of twenty-four hours; and he hoped that it would not be insisted that Mr. Brodeur should be interrogated till to-morrow.<sup>107</sup> [He] begged as a matter of courtesy for twenty-four hours delay.<sup>108</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB was perfectly willing to extend courtesy to every one, but there was a higher duty to perform and that was to see the country (sic) was properly represented. What courtesy, however, had been shown by gentlemen opposite in Montreal--how long did they give for consideration? Every one knew that the gentleman was not entitled to his place, and why therefore, should he



stay there a minute?<sup>109</sup> How was he to be prevented from voting?<sup>110</sup> Suppose there were twenty more in this position--was action to be postponed and they kept there improperly voting? Already on this speakership where the major[ity] was very small, this gentleman, who had no right to vote had given his vote. It was the first duty<sup>111</sup> of this House to purge itself as soon as possible of all members who had not a right to sit in it.<sup>112</sup>

MR. CAMERON said if when the Returning Officer was brought up he should say that he wanted twenty-four hours to answer, it would ... be only courteous to grant it to him.<sup>113</sup>

MR. LANGTON could see no reason for delay. Mr. Brodeur had only to answer the truth and to do so could not require consideration.<sup>114</sup>

(10)

*The Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chauveau, and the Question being put, That the further consideration of the Question be postponed till To-morrow; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

(10-11)

YEAS.

*Messieurs Alley, Biggar, Blanchet, Brodeur, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Felton, Ferrie, Foley, Fortier, Fournier, Fraser, Gill, Gould, Jackson, Labelle, Lemieux, Lorranger, Meagher, Monjeais, Morin, Solicitor General Morrison, Angus Morrison, Niles, Poulin, Pouliot, Rhodes, Rotlin, Rolph, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Southwick, Spence, Taché, Terrill, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Whitney, Wilson, and Wright.--(46.)*

(11)

NAYS.

*Messieurs Bellingham, Bourassa, Bowes, Brown, Bureau, Cameron, Casault, Cauchon, Cayley, Chisholm, Church, Clarke, Cooke, Crawford, Crysler, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeLong, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Dufresne, Fergusson, Ferres, Freeman, Galt, Gamble, Guévremont, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Langton, Larwill, Lumsden, Lyon, Macbeth, John S. Macdonald, John A. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Sir A.N. MacNab, McCann, McKerlie, Marchildon, Mattice, Murney, O'Farrell, Papin, Polette, Powell, Prévost, Robinson, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Shaw, Henry Smith, Somerville, Stevenson, Valois, and Young.--(61.)*

*So it passed in the Negative.*

The result was received with cheers and laughter from the Opposition.<sup>115</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN (passionately and contemptuously,) These are the judges! (Loud cries "order.")<sup>116</sup>

MR. H. SMITH, of Frontenac, hoped that before the main motion was put the hon. member for Chicoutimati (sic) would repeat what he had just said.<sup>117</sup> (Great sensation.)<sup>118</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN, believed he had shewn too much warmth (Several voices; that's enough! that's enough!) but he confessed he was<sup>119</sup> shocked at the expression of partizan feeling on the opposite side, and<sup>120</sup> at the demeanor of men who were acting as judges.<sup>121</sup> Perhaps, in the heat of the moment [he] used improper language.<sup>122</sup>

MR. H. SMITH expressed himself quite satisfied with the apology.<sup>123</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND did not wonder that his honorable colleague was shocked at the disgraceful exhibition of partizan feeling on the opposite side of the Chamber, on a question of this nature. (Ironical cheers and hisses.)<sup>124</sup> The gentlemen who had cheered ought also to confess that they were wrong.<sup>125</sup>

MR. CAMERON begged to assure the Attorney General that he need not attempt to lecture the opposition members for they did not intend to allow it. (Loud cheers.)<sup>126</sup>

MR. H. SMITH ... would [also] assure the Hon. Attorney General that they were not to be lectured by him.<sup>127</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB thought a gentleman opposite ought not to be surprised at any excitement that might be exhibited. The circumstances of the case were peculiar. The Government, who were supposed to have a majority in the House, and whose peculiar duty it was to protect the privileges of the House and of the people from invasion, were to-night, throwing every possible obstruction in the way of purging the House of Assembly of men who have no right to seats there. (Cheers.)<sup>128</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE said he was present in the House of Commons when the Scotch Reform bill was under discussion; and a case came under the notice of the House in which a sheriff<sup>129</sup> of Banff ... proposed himself, voted for himself and returned himself<sup>130</sup> as duly elected.<sup>131</sup>

After a further discussion, MR. SOL. GEN. J. MORRISON, still begging for delay, the House was divided (*sic*)<sup>132</sup>.

(11)

*Then the main Question being put; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Bellingham, Bourassa, Bowes, Brown, Bureau, Cameron, Casault, Cauchon, Cayley, Chapais, Chisholm, Church, Clarke, Cooke, Crawford, Cryslar, Charles Daoust, Darche, Delong, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Dufresne, Fergusson, Ferres, Freeman, Galt, Gamble, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Langton, Larwill, Lumsden, Lyon, Macbeth, John S. Macdonald, John A. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Sir A.N. MacNab, McCann, McKerlie, Marchildon, Mattice, Meagher, Murney, O'Farrell, Papin, Polette, Powell, Prévost, Rankin, Robinson, Rolph, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Shaw, Henry Smith, Somerville, Stevenson, Taché, Terrill, Valois, Yeilding, and Young.--(69.)*

(11-12)

NAYS.

*Messieurs Aikins, Alleyn, Bell, Biggar, Blanchet, Cartier, Chabot, Chauveau, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Egan, Felton, Ferrie, Foley, Fortier, Fournier, Frazer, Gould, Hincks, Jackson, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux, Mongenais, Morin, Solicitor General Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, Niles, Poulin, Pouliot, Rhodes, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, Southwick, Spence, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Whitney, Wilson, and Wright.--(45.)*

*So it was resolved in the Affirmative.*

(12)

*Ordered, That Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, Returning Officer for the County*

of Bagot, be required to attend forthwith at the Bar of this House, to answer to such questions as may be legally put to him concerning the Election for the said County.

After a long pause, no Mr. Brodeur presenting himself, the Sergeant at Arms was directed to communicate the order of the House to the hon. gentleman.<sup>133</sup>

(12)

*Ordered, That the said Order be communicated forthwith to Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, by the Serjeant-at-Arms.*

MR. TURCOTTE rose and contended that the Sergeant-at-Arms had no right to serve an order intended for the Returning Officer of Bagot on a member of this House.<sup>134</sup>

The Sergeant-at-Arms then waited on Mr. Brodeur with the Order of the House, but that gentleman refused to recognize it to give any reply.<sup>135</sup>

The Sergeant-at-Arms then reported to the Speaker that he had presented the order to Mr. Brodeur and that that gentleman refused to obey or reply to it. This report was verbal; but the Sergeant-at-Arms then reduced it to writing; and it was read to the Speaker.<sup>136</sup>

(12)

*The Serjeant-at-Arms reported to the House, That he had communicated the above Order to Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, enjoining on him to appear at the Bar of this House, upon which he shook his head.*

Roars of laughter and Ministerial cheers.<sup>137</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS (excitedly) said--where is your Returning Officer?<sup>138</sup>

Loud cries from the Opposition--He is there! Numerous hands were pointed toward Mr. Brodeur.<sup>139</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS,--No! he is not there. The hon. member for Bagot is there. The hon. gentlemen opposite have got themselves into a dilemma and they cannot escape from it. They had not established the identity between Mr. Brodeur, the Returning Officer for the county of Bagot, and Mr. Brodeur the member of that house.<sup>140</sup>

MR. LANGTON rose to speak.<sup>141</sup>

MR. TURCOTTE rose to order. He desired to know if it were in order to send an insulting message, as proposed by Mr. Dorion's motion, to a member of that House.<sup>142</sup>

Cries of "that is not a question of order."<sup>143</sup>

MR. SICOTTE the SPEAKER said that was not a question of order but of privilege.<sup>144</sup>

MR. TURCOTTE would move ... that the Sergeant-at-Arms be ordered to amend his report so as to state at what hour and place, and in what manner, the Sergeant-at-Arms had requested the attendance of the Returning Officer of the county of Bagot.<sup>145</sup>

A long and exciting debate, chiefly in French, ensued, in which MR. LYON, MR. TURCOTTE, MR. LORANGER, MR. A. DORION, MR. PAPIN, MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU, and MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS participated.<sup>146</sup>



MR. LYON regretted that a member of this House should put a motion the object of which was to bring the House into contempt.<sup>147</sup> Mr. Brodeur had first been guilty of a breach of privilege and then in disobeying the order of the House of contempt. There was no necessity to have communicated the order at all; and the member whom it concerned was bound to attend to it.<sup>148</sup> The House had made an order. A motion was made, the object of which was to bring it into ridicule, and it was seriously to be deplored that a member of the House should so far forget himself as to put it. The only effect of such a motion would be to make the House and its orders objects of ridicule before the community; and the House would be wanting in respect to itself and its privileges if it passed it. It would also be wanting in respect to the privileges of itself and the people of this country if it did not demand that its orders be obeyed.<sup>149</sup>

MR. TURCOTTE said if any ridicule there were, or contempt of the privileges of the House, it was in supposing that a member of the House was the Returning Officer for the County of Bagot. What proof had they that the hon. member for Bagot was the Returning Officer for that County. There was no evidence to justify such a proceeding as that taken by the majority of the House; and Mr. Brodeur had given a very proper reply by shaking his head.<sup>150</sup>

MR. LORANGER said the left of the House had got itself into difficulty, from which it saw no mode of escape. They did not know that the returning officer of Bagot was a member of the House. The interior of that House had always been held sacred, and the Serge[ant]-at arms dare not arrest one of its members in his seat on the pretence that he was a Returning officer. The notice given to the member for Bagot to appear at the bar as Returning Officer he hesitated not to declare was null, and the hon. member had ignored it in a very dignified manner shaking his head.<sup>151</sup>

MR. A. DORION made some remarks, but in a low tone of voice, which, from his position, made him nearly inaudible to the reporter. He was understood to say that he regretted the tone the debate had taken, and to complain that Mr. Drummond had left the House.<sup>152</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU replied, and took the ground that had been before urged that the identity of the Returning officer with Mr. Brodeur, the member could not be established by the House.<sup>153</sup>

MR. PAPIN was surprised at the course of hon. members opposite and complained that it was unfair. In the first place the motion had been altered at the request of the hon. Attorney General East and then when Mr. Brodeur refused to appear the Attorney General left the House.<sup>154</sup>

(12)

*Mr. Turcotte moved, seconded by Mr. Fortier, and the Question being put, That the Serjeant-at-Arms do amend his Return, by stating in which place, and at what hour, and in what manner, whether by delivering a copy of the Order or otherwise, he served the Returning Officer for the County of Bagot named in the Return made by him to this House with the said Order; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Aikins, Alleyn, Bell, Biggar, Blanchet, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Foley, Fortier, Fournier, Frazer, Gill, Gould, Hincks, Jackson, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Angus Morrison, Munro,*



Niles, Poulin, Pouliot, Rhodes, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, Sidney Smith, Southwick, Spence, Taché, Terrill, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Wilson, and Wright.-- (45.)

NAYS.

Messieurs Bellingham, Bourassa, Bowes, Brown, Bureau, Burton, Cameron, Casault, Cauchon, Cayley, Chisholm, Clarke, Cooke, Crawford, Crysler, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Dufresne, Fergusson, Ferres, Ferrie, Freeman, Gamble, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Langton, Larwill, Lyon, Macbeth, John S. Macdonald, John A. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Sir A.N. MacNab, McCann, McKerlie, Marchildon, Mattice, Murney, O'Farrell, Papin, Polette, Powell, Prévost, Rankin, Robinson, Rolph, Scatcherd, Shaw, Henry Smith, Somerville, Stevenson, Valois, Yeilding, and Young.--(62.)

*So it passed in the Negative.*

MR. J. DORION had a further motion to make. He had altered his former one at the request of Mr. Drummond and that had been treated with contempt. He would now endeavour to put a motion that would be more searching. It was to the effect that the Speaker do issue his warrant for the arrest of the Returning Officer for the County of Bagot seeing that he had refused to obey a request of the House communicated to him by the Serge[ant]-at-arms.<sup>155</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS said with much warmth that he for one would protest against such a motion. The House had no right to assume facts that did not appear. The majority did not understand what they were doing.<sup>156</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB and others simultaneously said--What is it we don't understand? Come, let us know! (Laughter followed.)<sup>157</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS said the members opposite not having any sound argument answered with "a horse laugh."<sup>158</sup>

Cries of order and renewed laughter.<sup>159</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS repeated that the members opposite substituted "a horse laugh" for reason. He would read the motion.<sup>160</sup>

Cries of--Yes, do.<sup>161</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS having obtained the motion from the Speaker's hands, read it.<sup>162</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB.--Now what is the portion of it, we don't understand?<sup>163</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS said it was not so much the hon. members opposite did not understand, as the speeches in French of the movers in this matter. While pretending to be ultra liberals they had given utterance to sentiments better suited to some other places and countries than an assembly of British freemen. And as to the motion, he contended that it assumed the hon. member for Bagot was Mr. Brodeur the Returning officer, and that the House had no right to do. It was unjust. The Sergeant-at-arms dare not arrest a member on such a motion; no, he dare not.<sup>164</sup> Solicitor General Ross proceeded with great warmth and amidst repeated interruptions to tax the majority with a tyrannical violation of the liberties of the people and the privileges of the House. He denied that the Sergeant-at-arms had any right to lay his hand on a member of the House, and intimated that were he (the Solicitor General) in Mr. Brodeur's place he would resist that officer should he attempt to enforce the order of the House. (Ironical cheers.)<sup>165</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB and others said members had been arrested hundreds of times by the Sergeant-at-arms.<sup>166</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS said not in such circumstances.--Loud laughter.<sup>167</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND, in answer to a remark of Sir Allan McNab, said that he believed the return made by Timothe Brodeur was null and void; but he believed it was competent for the Election Clerk to complete the return so as to make it legal.<sup>168</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB said that was a new doctrine to him, and went on to contend that Mr. Brodeur had no right to remain in the House.<sup>169</sup> [He] declared that the sitting member for Bagot was guilty of a high contempt of the House and breach of its privileges in thus contumaciously refusing to obey its orders. He then proceeded to read a severe lecture to Mr. Cartier for continually communicating with that gentleman and encouraging him in such a course.<sup>170</sup> He did not believe that the communications that the Solicitor General and hon. member who was proposed to be Speaker of the House were constantly holding with that gentleman were in order or proper.<sup>171</sup>

MR. CARTIER becoming excited,<sup>172</sup> interrupted and said: I rise to order. The Hon. and gallant Knight from Hamilton has no right to impugn my motives. I don't believe that that is in order.<sup>173</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB said he did not impugn the motives of the hon. member. He only remarked on his conduct. He said that after the hon. member had been proposed as Speaker of the House it was particularly improper that he should keep up such frequent intercourse with a gentleman who held the House in such contempt.<sup>174</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS denied that a shake of the head necessarily amounted to a refusal to obey the orders of the House. (Ironical cheers.)<sup>175</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB then returned to the honorable Solicitor General East and rebuked him also for privately giving aid and encouragement to Mr. Brodeur.<sup>176</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS vociferously denied that he even knew "the man by sight" and significantly expressed a hope that the honorable and gallant knight would not repeat the accusation. He had better not. (Ironical cries of Hear hear).<sup>177</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB hoped the honorable gentleman did not think to frighten him by loud talk. (Hear hear.) If he (Sir A.) was mistaken he was always ready to acknowledge it and he was glad to find that he was mistaken in this instance.<sup>178</sup> He had mistaken the hon. member for another hon. member on that side of the House.<sup>179</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND said he only desired to proceed in a proper manner. After the House had passed a resolution to have the Returning Officer of Bagot brought to the bar he had never doubted that that gentleman must make his appearance<sup>180</sup>. [He] expressed his regret that Mr. Brodeur had refused to obey the order of the House. (Hear hear.) It was not done by his (Mr. Drummond's) advice. (Hear hear.)<sup>181</sup> [He] again expressed his opinion that there was no doubt that the Mr. Brodeur, who was Returning Officer, was the same Mr. Brodeur who sat here as the representative of Bagot. But there ought to be some evidence before the House to that effect; it ought to appear in the journals, as the precedent now to be set was an important one.<sup>182</sup> Nothing would be more easy than to<sup>183</sup> call upon one or two witnesses to establish this point<sup>184</sup> in a proper manner. Two affidavits would be sufficient<sup>185</sup>.

MR. LANGTON said the question of identity had been definitively established.<sup>186</sup> There was the signature of Timothe Brodeur on the Roll of the House, and the signature of Timothe Brodeur to the Writ.<sup>187</sup>

MR. CAMERON contended that Mr. Drummond anticipated the case. The time to prove identity had not come yet. When they had the Returning Officer at the Bar of the House then would be the time to prove that he was the member. He thought the Solicitor General had shown unnecessary warmth in the affair. As to the government he had found that in former times that governments had always been glad to vindicate the privileges of the House; but here they had one of its members saying one thing, and then something else; one voting one way, and one another, and the leader of the Government absent from the House. All that was a sign to him that the Government had not the strength to protect the privileges of the House, and that power would soon pass from its hands.<sup>188</sup>

After some further discussion the House was about to divide upon Mr. Dorion's motion when MR. BRODEUR, the cause of all the commotion, making virtue of necessity,<sup>189</sup> voluntarily stepped from his seat on the back row of benches [and]<sup>190</sup> presented himself to the house, amidst merriment marching toward the bar with the air of a martyr to the stake<sup>191</sup>.

SIR A.N. MACNAB indignantly insisted that after such gross contempt of the House, the gentleman should not be allowed to go to the bar voluntarily, but should be brought there vi et armis.<sup>192</sup>

He was ordered outside the bar.<sup>193</sup>

Cries of "question" were then heard<sup>194</sup>.

(12)

*Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. John Alexander Macdonald, and the Question being put, That the Serjeant-at-Arms having reported that he had communicated the Order of this House to Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, the Returning Officer for the County of Bagot, enjoining the*

(13)

*said Timothée Brodeur to appear at the Bar of this House; and having further reported, that the said Timothée Brodeur refused to comply with the said Order of this House, Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant forthwith to the Serjeant-at-Arms, to take the said Timothée Brodeur into his custody, and bring him to the Bar of this House; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Bell, Bellingham, Bourassa, Bowes, Brown, Bureau, Burton, Cameron, Casault, Cauchon, Cayley, Chisholm, Clarke, Cooke, Crawford, Crysler, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Dufresne, Fergusson, Ferres, Ferrie, Freeman, Galt, Gamble, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Langton, Larwill, Macketh, John S. Macdonald, John A. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Sir A.N. MacNab, McCann, McKerlie, Marchildon, Mattice, Murney, J'Farrell, Papin, Patrick, Tolette, Powell, Prévost, Rankin, Robinson, Rolph, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Shaw, Stevenson, Vulois, Wilson, and Young.--(63.)*

NAYS.

*Messieurs Alleyn, Biggar, Blanshet, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Shauveau, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Foley, Fortier, Fournier, Frazer, Gill, Gould, Hincks, Jackson, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux,*



Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Solicitor General Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, Niles, Poulin, Pouliot, Rhodes, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, Southwick, Spence, Turcotte, and Whitney.--(40.)

*So it was resolved in the Affirmative.*

While the vote was being taken MR. BRODEUR walked back to his seat, whence he was afterwards brought to the bar of the House by the Sergeant-at-arms.<sup>195</sup>

(13)

*The Serjeant-at-Arms reported, That he had taken Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, into his custody, and brought him to the Bar.*

Another attempt was made at this stage of the proceedings by MR. BRODEUR and the minority to obtain 24 hours respite, but it was resolutely resolved by the majority.<sup>196</sup>

(13)

*Mr. Brodeur was then examined, as followeth:--*

*By Mr. Papin:--*

*1. Are you Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, Notary Public, of the Parish of St. Hugues, in the District of Montreal, in the County of Bagot?--I ask until To-morrow to answer.*

SIR A.N. MACNAB thought this was trifling with the House; and that the answers should be given at once.<sup>197</sup>

(13)

*And the Question being repeated to him; he answered:--I am.*

*2. Are you the Timothée Brodeur mentioned in a Commission dated the 1st July, 1854, appointing the said Timothée Brodeur, Returning Officer of and for the County of Bagot, for the Election to be held under and by virtue of a Writ of Election for the said County of Bagot, issued the 23d day of June last, and returnable on the 10th day of August last?--I am.*

*3. Did you act as Returning Officer for the said County of Bagot for and during the said Election?--Yes, I acted as Returning Officer, except on the day of Proclamation, when I was elected by acclamation, and the Election Clerk proclaimed me as such, but I signed the Indenture.*

SIR A.N. MACNAB contended that this was no answer. The reply must be yes or no.<sup>198</sup>

MR. CARTIER said it was not permitted that the answer of any witness should be dictated. He must answer in his own way. The present answer was a reply to the question, but it was stated fully in order the give the circumstances.<sup>199</sup>

MR. SICOTTE the SPEAKER having been appealed to, said the answer was no reply to the question; and some other steps must be taken.<sup>200</sup>

(14)

*4. Is the signature your's which is at the foot of the Return or Report of the said Election annexed to the said Writ of Election?--It is my signature.*

*5. Are you the Timothée Brodeur whose name appears in the said Return or Report, and in the Indenture, as having been chosen by certain of the Electors of the said County to represent the said County?--I am the same person.*

*6. Did you receive the amount of the Fees due to the Returning Officer for the County of Bagot, for the said Election, and what was the sum you received, demanded, or charged as such Fees?--Yes; but as to the amount I do not exactly remember it. It was perhaps about twenty pounds, but I have not received the money.*



MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND said he could not permit these proceedings to go on without entering his protest against it.<sup>201</sup> Mr. Drummond warmly protested .... He said it was outrageous not to give Mr. Brodeur one day's delay when he asked for it.<sup>202</sup> They had again and again declared that their sole object was to establish the identity between the Returning Officer and the sitting member. They were propounding questions which would be perfectly legitimate before an election committee but which were entirely premature here.<sup>203</sup> The hon. member (Mr. Dorion) acted like the wolf in sheep's clothing, and backed by a majority, he supposed he would carry out his design, but he (Mr. Drummond) for one would record his protest against it.<sup>204</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS had never heard of this case before he came to the House to-day, but when he found that the majority were determined not to allow even twenty-four hours for an examination of the subject, he resolved to let that majority take the responsibility of its course. He then referred to the Oxford Election case of 1848, and declared that all the Conservative members protested against the course of proceeding in that case as monstrous. (Hear hear.)<sup>205</sup>

SIR A.N. MACNAB rose to order. The question had been put and could not be spoken to.<sup>206</sup> The House had decided that Mr. Brodeur should be interrogated, and the Inspector General had no right to go into other matters till the matter in hand was disposed of.<sup>207</sup>

Loud cries of order.<sup>208</sup>

MR. SICOTTE the SPEAKER said a question that had been put could not be spoken to.<sup>209</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS had no doubt gentlemen opposite did not relish the line of his remarks, but he would find another opportunity to make them in order. The majority would not succeed in stifling discussion. (Cheers.)<sup>210</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD of Glengarry rose to speak to a question of order.<sup>211</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS claimed the floor if debate was in order. He was not to be put down by the member from Glengarry. (Cheers and counter cheers).<sup>212</sup>

The discussion then terminated after a few words from MR. J.S. MACDONALD, on a question of order.<sup>213</sup>

(14)

*By Mr. Foley:--*

7. *Were all and every of the notices required by law duly given by you as the said Returning Officer previous to the said Election?--The notices were given and made by me. The notices and proclamations were all posted up by me.*

8. *Was there any other Candidate than yourself proposed at the said Election, and if so, who?--There were none.*

9. *Are the persons whose names are signed to the said Indenture, and were they and every of them at the time of your said Nomination and Election, duly qualified Electors of the said County entitled to vote at the said Election?--The four persons who have signed the said Indenture are duly qualified Electors.*

10. *Did you, at the time of the said Nomination and Election verily believe that you were duly qualified to be elected as the Representative of the said County of Bagot? (This Question was objected to by a majority of the House.)*

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said he saw a determination on the part of the gentlemen opposite,<sup>214</sup> who professed to be par excellence the friends of liberty and

liberal institutions,<sup>215</sup> by the tyranny of a majority to stifle discussion. They should not however do so without his raising his voice against it.<sup>216</sup> He did not doubt the hon. gentlemen opposite did not like the reference to the Oxford Election in 1849 (sic). The hon. and gallant Knight and his friends loudly protested against the tyranny of a majority then. But what were the circumstances?<sup>217</sup> The case ... was entirely different from this.<sup>218</sup> The county of Oxford was disfranchised and Mr. Carroll who had only a few votes was declared returned. Yet now<sup>219</sup> Mr. Brodeur had been elected by acclamation and the people of Bagot had no cause of complaint. In such a state of the case, it was proposed to expel that member tyrannically,<sup>220</sup> hastily and without deliberation<sup>221</sup>. The majority refused to allow twenty-four hours for the consideration of the case. The minority of this night will never regret their votes.<sup>222</sup> He felt certain that the majority would in their cooler moments regret the course they were now taking.<sup>223</sup>

MR. J.A. MACDONALD, of Kingston, said there was indeed a difference between this and the Oxford case. In the Oxford case Mr. Carroll<sup>224</sup>, the sitting member, was charged with no wrong; and<sup>225</sup> was summarily ejected, and the Returning Officer put on his trial for an offence that was criminal, without one hour being granted him for preparation. Yet the Returning Officer in that case had acted on the advice of a crown lawyer--but the defence was not permitted him, and he was disgraced and deprived of all his offices without a moment's time being allowed him for defence<sup>226</sup>, although now he believed that the same Mr. Vansittart had been promised a restoration to all those offices, if the Inspector General only remained in power long enough to fulfil that promise. (Loud cries of hear, hear.)<sup>227</sup> He (Mr. Macdonald) complained of the tyranny of a majority then and with good reason. The hon. Inspector General had no cause to complain of the tyranny of a majority now, for there was nothing in the case that required it.<sup>228</sup>

MR. CAYLEY made some remarks in the same strain.<sup>229</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD, of Glengary said he would (sic) hardly believe himself when he heard Mr. Hincks make this a party question and complain of the tyranny if (sic) the majority.<sup>230</sup> For anything that was wrong Mr. Brodeur might have kept the writ and never issued it at all.<sup>231</sup>

MR. LANGTON [spoke].<sup>232</sup>

Some further conversation followed<sup>233</sup>.

MR. BELLINGHAM remarked the gross impropriety of Mr. Brodeur being at once a candidate for election, a Returning Officer, and postmaster.<sup>234</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS said, no two gentlemen on his side of the house had contended that the election was strictly legal. He (Mr. H.) was far from asserting that. The member from Glengarry had spoken as if it was possible that the return was a fraud, and that the election might never have been held. The indenture was signed by several freeholders, which was a sufficient guarantee that the election had been held. Mr. Brodeur when returning officer had not intended to be a candidate till the last moment, when the person who had been expected to be elected refused to come forward.<sup>235</sup>

The House refused to allow several questions proposed by Mr. Foley, to be put, on the ground of irrelevancy, whereupon MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS expressed great delight. He wanted the country to see that the majority not only endeavored to stifle discussion, but actually refused to allow pertinent questions to be asked.<sup>236</sup>

(14)

By Mr. Loranger:--

11. What is the name of the person who acted as Election Clerk during the said Election for the said County of Bagot; where does he reside, and what is his profession?--Charles Blain, Esquire, Notary Public, residing at St. Hugues, was the Election Clerk who proclaimed me at the said Election.

12. Was not the said Charles Blain appointed by you to be an Election Clerk by Commission; was he sworn in; did he accept that office; did you not appoint him Election Clerk in your stead, previous to the day of Nomination when you were proclaimed the Member elect for the County of Bagot?--I named the said Charles Blain; I believe it was on the 12th or 13th of July that he was appointed and sworn. On the day of the Proclamation it was by him that all the proceedings were conducted, and it was he who proclaimed me elected.

By Mr. Foley:--

13. Did you, previous to the said Election, or subsequently, take the advice or counsel of any professional gentleman respecting the said Election, and if so, of whom?--Yes; I spoke to Mr. Speaker, and to Mr. Cartier, but to neither of them during the Election, but since.

On motion of Mr. Papin, seconded by the Honorable Mr. John Alexander Macdonald,

Ordered, That Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, Returning Officer for the County of Bagot, having answered the Questions put to him by this House, be discharged from the Warrant under which he has been brought before this House, and liberated.

Mr. Brodeur was discharged accordingly.

On motion of Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion, seconded by Mr. Papin,

Ordered, That the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery do lay before this House, all Correspondence which took place between the Returning Officer for the County of Bagot and himself, before or during the last Election, at the next sitting of this House.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Morin, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chauveau,

(15)

Ordered, That the Order of the day for taking into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature, be postponed until To-morrow.

Then, on motion of Mr. Valois, seconded by Mr. Papin,  
The House adjourned.237





## APPENDIX: 7 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO AMEND CRIMINAL LAW.]

MR. CAMERON [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to amend the Criminal Law of this Province.<sup>238</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO ENFORCE ATTENDANCE OF WITNESSES.]

MR. CAMERON [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to enforce the attendance of witnesses in certain cases before the Superior Courts of Law and Equity in Canada.<sup>239</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO EXEMPT CERTAIN ITEMS FROM SEIZURE FOR DEBT.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on the 14th inst. [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to exempt the tools or implements of any Debtor's trade or calling, and the wearing apparel, the bedding, and other furniture necessary for the use of his family, from seizure and sale under execution for debt.<sup>240</sup>

[NOTICES OF MOTION RE: BILL TO INCORPORATE ST. FRANCIS BANK.]

MR. TERRILL [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move] for the suspension of the 66th Rule of the House, in so far as regards a Bill to incorporate the St. Francis Bank.<sup>241</sup>

MR. TERRILL [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate the St. Francis Bank.<sup>242</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: PAPERS RELATING TO JEAN BLANCHET, VISITING PHYSICIAN AT THE MARINE HOSPITAL.]

MR. CAUCHON [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before this House, copies of the several appointments of Jean Blanchet, Esquire, as one of the Visiting Physicians of the Marine Hospital at Quebec, and also a detailed statement, certified by the proper officer, shewing the several sums of money received by the said Jean Blanchet, Esquire, as such Visiting Physician, with the periods of payment.<sup>243</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: HOSPICE DES SOEURS DE LA CHARITE.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on the 18th inst. [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before the House, copies of the Original Agreement to rent for the use of the Legislature from the Grey Nuns, "l'Hospice des Soeurs de la Charitie (sic)," and of any agreement between the Government and the Archbishop of Quebec to pay £20,000, or any other sum, for the loss sustained by the burning in May last of said House; also, all other correspondence between the Government and the Archbishop of Quebec, or other parties interested; and shewing what insurance was effected on the building, and to whom paid.<sup>244</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: CROWN LANDS CLAIMS FEES.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move] for an account in detail of all monies in the hands of the Clerks of the Crown Land Office on account of claims; also, copy of the Tariff [of] Fees in use in that Office, the authority for each charge, and the amount received during the last 12 months, and by whom.<sup>245</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS ON PUBLIC WORKS RE: SALES OF PROPERTY BY GOVERNMENT; VARIOUS REPORTS REQUIRED BY LAW.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency, for a return shewing the various Roads, Harbors, Bridges, and Welland and St. Lawrence Canal Lots or other property sold to Companies or individuals by the Government; the amount they sold for, the sums severally paid in, the amount due on each transaction, including interest, except so far as the information required may have been placed in the Public Accounts, or be already before the House.

As (sic) also, that copies of the several reports or returns, ordered by law to be made to the Governor General, for the information of the Legislature, may be laid before the House, including the Montreal Fire Loan, Toronto Harbor Commissioners, Receiver General, Penitentiary, Geological Survey, Superintendent of Schools, U.C. Grammar Schools, (exclusive of Meteorological Reports,) Lunatic Asylum, Supervisor of Cullers at Quebec, Montreal Harbor Commissioners, Seminary of [St.] Sulpice, Grey Nuns (Montreal,) Peres Oblats, Hotel Dieu (Montreal,) Toronto Orphans' Home, Toronto House of Industry, Hamilton Orphan Asylum, Wesleyan Methodist Connexional Society, Trinity College, McGill College, Canadian Loan Company, the Banks enumerated in the list compiled under the Standing Order of 25th August, 1842, Canada Guarantee Company, Canadian Steam Navigation Company, Grand Division of Sons of Temperance, (C.W.), and Cap Rouge Dock Company.<sup>246</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: INDIAN LANDS AND THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT IN HALDIMAND COUNTY; RIDEAU CANAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Monday week [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency, the Governor General, for a return shewing the number of Tenants upon Indian Lands, or persons owing dues to the Indian Department, or its Agents, in whole or in part, for lands in Haldimand County by them severally purchased.

Also, shewing the receipts from every source and the expenditure on the Rideau Canal during the two last fiscal years, including the names of every officer, servant or agent, and the salary and other emoluments they severally received, or which was due to them within that period; and stating what sums have been received, or are due, for lands sold or leased by Her Majesty's Government on the line of Canal or at its lower terminus.<sup>247</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: OVERDUE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Thursday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before this House, a Schedule containing the names of all the defaulters to the Government of Canada, and to the late Governments of Upper and Lower Canada, including all balances from public accountants, past due and unpaid, whether payable to the consolidated fund, or to any special fund, with the sums they respectively owe, the names of their sureties, and the amount for which such sureties are severally or jointly responsible; said return to be made up to 31st January last.<sup>248</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: SEIGNIORY OF LAUZON PAPERS INCLUDING THOSE RELATING TO POINTE LEVI SALE.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move] for a Return showing the sales of real estate, water privileges, and timber, on

the Seigniorship of Lauzon, during the last twelve months, ending the last fiscal year; said return to contain a copy of any Orders in Council, and directions by the Crown Land Commissioner, to sell certain mill sites, lands near Point Levi, the Beach or wharfage on the River St. Lawrence, Mills, &c.; with a copy of the advertisements sent to the newspapers relative to said Point Levi sale, and stating the number of acres sold, the names of purchasers, the sums agreed to be paid, the sums due, and the sums that have been paid on said purchases; also, any correspondence had with any Department of the Executive Government relating to or connected with said sale and purchase; such return further to contain a detailed statement of the rents, profits, salaries, revenue and expenditure of the said Seigniorship of Lauzon since the last return.<sup>249</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: LEASE OF LAND TO JOHN PRINCE.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move] for a copy of any lease or patent leasing certain landed property at or near the Rondeau, including fishing grounds, to John Prince, Esq., Queen's Counsel, and of the orders in Council, authorizing said lease, the petition, if any, and any correspondence on file in the Executive Council Office, or Crown Land Department, relative to the same.<sup>250</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION: THAT CLERK GIVE NOTICE TO DEPARTMENTS ETC. TO PREPARE REPORTS.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move] that the Clerk be directed to notify all public officers, commissioners, or corporations, whose duty it is to prepare any reports or periodical statements to the Legislative Assembly, to have them ready at the earliest possible period--said order to include all Incorporated Banks, Loan Companies, Savings Banks, and Insurance Companies, the Postmaster General (Report for 1853,) Minister of Agriculture, Province Secretary, Province Registrar, Civil List, Public Lands, Osgoode Hall, Lunatic Asylum, Rebellion Losses, Public Health, Emigration, Grand Trunk Railway Company, Public Works, Toronto Public Buildings, including the Government House, for which a supply was voted about three years since, Distribution of Statutes, Superintendent of Education, University of Toronto, Registrars of Counties, Montreal and Quebec Trinity Houses; also the Religious and Philanthropic, Educational and Literary and Scientific Incorporations named in the list of Sessional Returns prepared June, 1854, under the standing order of 25th Aug., 1852; Manufacturing and other Commercial Companies, Harbour Companies, Road Companies, and Railway Companies, as per said list--and the Grand River Navigation Company, the Beverly Navigation Company, the Desjardins Canal Company, and the Quebec and Trois Pistoles Navigation Company.<sup>251</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION: THAT CLERK OBTAIN STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS FROM CHARTERED BANKS.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move] that the Clerk of this House be instructed to obtain from the Managers of each of the Chartered Banks in Canada, a statement shewing the names of every Shareholder in such Bank, the amount of stock the Shareholders severally hold, distinguishing, where it is possible, new stock granted under Statutes passed in the two last Parliaments, and shewing the premium, if any, payable or paid thereon, by purchasers.<sup>252</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: ELECTION STATISTICS.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move] that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery be directed to prepare a return to this



House, from the Records of the last Election, shewing the number of votes polled in each County, Riding, Township, Parish, City, Town, or other division, for each candidate, with the total number polled in each County, Riding, Township, Parish, City, Town, or other division, placing also the total population of each of said divisions and sub-divisions opposite or beside said totals of votes, and naming the several Returning Officers and their several offices, as Sheriff, Town-Clerk, Registrar, or other designation.<sup>253</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: RETURN OF GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF CANADA; CASH ON DEPOSIT AND PUBLIC DEBT; STATE OF MUNICIPAL LOAN FUND AND CLERGY RESERVES INCOME.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move] for a Return, under the usual heads of the Revenue and Expenditure, of the Gross Revenue of Canada, and amount of payments therefrom during the six months of the fiscal year ending 31st July last, including the Post office Department.

Also, the amount of cash at the credit of the Government, in the Banks and other monied institutions of Canada, or elsewhere, or lent to individuals, or on deposit with them, at as recent a date as may be in the power of the Inspector and Receiver Generals' Departments to supply; and also, a statement of the whole public debt at this time, including all sums for which the Province is security, shewing the interest now due by railway or other incorporated Companies, if any, and unpaid; shewing also, the condition of the Consolidated Municipal Loan Fund of Upper Canada, and the gross income of the Clergy Reserves in Upper and in Lower Canada, for the six months since the period to which the Public Accounts for 1853 are made up.<sup>254</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION: THAT A NEW WRIT BE ISSUED FOR BAGOT.]

MR. J. DORION (of Drummond and Arthabaska) [gave notice that] to-morrow [he would move] that whereas by the return of the last Election, for the County of Bagot, now before this House, it appears that Timothee Brodeur, Esquire, was elected Representative for the said County of Bagot for the present Parliament at the said last Election which was held by virtue of the Writ for the said Election, bearing date the twenty-third of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, under the Great Seal of the Province, and addressed to the said Timothee Brodeur, Esquire, as Returning Officer for the said County:--

That the said Timothee Brodeur, Esquire, having acted as such Returning Officer during the said Election, he held, as such, an office or place of emolument at the nomination of the Crown, and that he was disqualified and could not be elected as such Representative at the said Election.

That the respect due to the rights of the Electors and to the privileges of this House, requires that the said Return be held to be null and void, and that a new writ do forthwith issue for the election of a Member for the said County of Bagot.

That the Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery for the issue of a new Writ for the election of a Member to serve in the present Parliament for the County of Bagot.<sup>255</sup>



## FOOTNOTES: 7 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
2. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
3. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
4. IBID.
5. IBID.
6. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
7. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
8. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
9. IBID.
10. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
11. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
12. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
13. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
14. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
15. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
16. IBID.
17. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 13 September 1854.
18. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
19. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
20. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
21. IBID.
22. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
23. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
24. IBID.
25. Telegraph (MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 7 September 1854).
26. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
27. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
28. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
29. IBID.
30. IBID.
31. IBID.
32. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
33. IBID.
34. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 13 September 1854.
35. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
36. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 13 September 1854.
37. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
38. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 13 September 1854.
39. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
40. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 13 September 1854.
41. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
42. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
43. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
44. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
45. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
46. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
47. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
48. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
49. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
50. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
51. IBID.
52. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.

53. IBID.
54. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
55. IBID.
56. IBID.
57. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
58. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
59. IBID.
60. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
61. IBID.
62. IBID.
63. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
64. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
65. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
66. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
67. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
68. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
69. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
70. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
71. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
72. IBID.
73. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
74. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
75. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
76. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
77. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
78. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
79. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
80. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
81. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
82. IBID.
83. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
84. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
85. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
86. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
87. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
88. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
89. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
90. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
91. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
92. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
93. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
94. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
95. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
96. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
97. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
98. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
99. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
100. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
101. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
102. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
103. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
104. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
105. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
106. IBID.

107. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
108. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
109. IBID.
110. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
111. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
112. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
113. IBID.
114. IBID.
115. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854, reported "a slight cheer from the opposition"; NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854, "a loud burst of applause."
116. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854, reported the exclamation as "and this from judges." MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854, quoted Mr. Morin as saying, "What pretty judges!"
117. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
118. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
119. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
120. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
121. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
122. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
123. IBID.
124. IBID.
125. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
126. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
127. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
128. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
129. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
130. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
131. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
132. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
133. IBID.
134. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
135. IBID.
136. IBID.
137. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854, which added, "It is perhaps necessary to state, that during the whole of these proceedings, Messrs. Cartier, Loranger, and other prominent Ministerial members, were hovering around Mr. Brodeur apparently advising and consoling him."
138. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
139. IBID.
140. IBID.
141. IBID.
142. IBID.
143. IBID.
144. IBID.
145. IBID.
146. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
147. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
148. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
149. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
150. IBID.
151. IBID.
152. PILOT, 11 September 1854.
153. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).

154. IBID.
155. IBID.
156. IBID.
157. IBID.
158. IBID.
159. IBID.
160. IBID.
161. IBID.
162. IBID.
163. IBID.
164. IBID.
165. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
166. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
167. IBID.
168. IBID.
169. IBID.
170. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
171. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
172. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
173. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
174. IBID.
175. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
176. IBID.
177. IBID.
178. IBID.
179. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
180. IBID.
181. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
182. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
183. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
184. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
185. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
186. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
187. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
188. IBID.
189. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
190. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
191. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
192. IBID.
193. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
194. IBID.
195. IBID.
196. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
197. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
198. IBID.
199. IBID.
200. IBID.
201. IBID.
202. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
203. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
204. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
205. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
206. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard). The question Sir A. MacNab refers to is question number six, above. To avoid awkwardness,



this question and the answer to it are not separated in our reconstruction of the proceedings, but it is clear from the newspaper sources that the question had not been answered when Mr. Drummond rose to object to it.

207. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
208. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
209. IBID.
210. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
211. IBID.
212. IBID.
213. IBID.
214. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854. The order of events as reported by the TORONTO LEADER has here been followed. The NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854, reports this discussion as following Mr. Papin's proposing of the question (withdrawn at the end of the discussion), "whether Mr. Brodeur had occupied a seat as a member of the House."
215. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
216. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
217. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
218. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
219. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
220. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
221. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
222. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
223. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
224. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
225. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
226. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
227. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
228. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
229. IBID.
230. IBID.
231. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
232. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
233. MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
234. IBID.
235. TORONTO LEADER, 13 September 1854.
236. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854.
237. NIAGARA CHRONICLE, 15 September 1854, noted that "the House adjourned shortly past midnight."
238. PILOT, 11 September 1854.
239. IBID.
240. IBID.
241. IBID.
242. IBID.
243. IBID.
244. IBID.
245. IBID.
246. IBID.
247. IBID.
248. IBID.
249. IBID.
250. IBID.
251. IBID.
252. IBID.
253. IBID.
254. IBID.
255. IBID.



FRIDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(15)

THOMAS MAYNE DALY, Esquire, Member for the County of Perth, having previously taken the Oath according to Law, and subscribed before the Commissioners the Roll containing the same, took his Seat in the House.

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Alleyn,--The Petition of the Honorable Pierre J.O. Chauveau and others, of the City of Quebec.

By Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion,--The Petition of Godefroy Liévain and others, of the Township of Bulstrode; the Petition of Uldoric Regnaud and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; the Petition of Hilaire Leduc and others, of the Township of Bulstrode; and three Petitions of the Reverend P.H. Suzor and others, of the Parish of St. Christophe d'Arthabaska.

By the Honorable Mr. Cameron,--The Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Toronto.

By Mr. Fergusson,--The Petition of the Municipality of the Village of Preston; and the Petition of the Galt and Guelph Railway Company.

By Mr. Aikins,--The Petition of Joseph Wright and others, Reeves and Deputy Reeves of the County of Peel; the Petition of J.C. Prosser and others, of the Township of Albion, County of Peel; and the Petition of the Six Line Division, No. 84, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Stevenson,--The Petition of Marysburg Division, No. 321, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion,--The Petition of Wolfred Nelson, Esquire, and others, Members of the British American Friendly Society of Canada; the Petition of the Ladies, Office-bearers of the Montreal Protestant Orphan Asylum; and the Petition of L'Institut Canadien of Montreal.

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:--

Of the Municipal Council of the County of Kent; complaining of the manner in which the Crown and Clergy Lands are disposed of in the said County, and praying for a Commission to enquire into the premises.

Of the Municipal Council of the County of Kent; praying that the Common School Law may be amended by abolishing Sectarian Schools and establishing a system of Free Schools.

Of the Municipal Council of the County of Kent; praying that the rights of the Indians with regard to the Indian Reserve in the Township of Oxford, and the timber thereon, may be secured to them, and that the interests of the said County with reference thereto may also be considered.

Of the Municipal Council of the County of Kent; praying an Act to incorporate a Company for the construction of a Railroad from Amherstburg to St. Thomas.

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Of the Municipal Council of the County of Kent; praying that power may be granted to the several Municipalities in Upper Canada to prohibit Houses of Public Entertainment from selling or giving intoxicating Liquors on the Lord's Day.

Of the Municipal Council of the County of Lambton; praying for the passing of an Act during the present Parliament for the immediate and complete secularization of the Clergy Reserve Lands.

Of Daniel W. Metler; praying for indemnification for damages done to the Estate of the late Philip Metler during the enlargement of the Welland Canal, and that the Act to amend the Laws relating to Public Works may be so amended as to allow adjudication upon the said claim.

of Sheffield Division, No. 363; of Bear Creek Division, No. 52; of Stewart-town Division, No. 75; of Arthur Advance Division, No. 213; of Innisfil Division, No. 177; of Blenheim Division, No. 57; of Erie Division, No. 145; of Elora Division, No. 272; of Warwick Division, No. 20; of Refuge Division, No. 215; of Arthur Central Division, No. 13; of Grimsby Division, No. 153; of Smithville Division, No. 148; of Beacon Light Division, No. 361; of Ravine Division, No. 73; and of Monument Division, No. 411, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; praying for the passing of an Act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating Liquors, or otherwise to enable Voters at the next General Election to express their opinion on the subject.

Of Peter Freeland and others, Members and friends of the Upper Canada Religious Tract and Book Society; praying for an Act of Incorporation.

Of the Municipality of the Township of Niagara; praying for the passing of an Act to confirm certain allowances for Roads in the said Township.

Of the Sydenham Harbour Company; praying for the passing of an Act to increase their Capital Stock.

Of W.H. Smith and others, of the Province of Canada, Shareholders in the Provident Life Assurance and Investment Company; praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate the said Company.

Of William Barker and others, of the Town of London; praying for an Act of Incorporation under the style and title of the London Hotel Company.

Of the Town Council of the Town of London; praying for an Act granting them authority to negotiate a Loan to consolidate the Debt of the said Town.

Of Bartholomew Galvin, of the Town of London; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize the Courts of Queen's Bench, Common Pleas and Chancery, in this Province, to admit him to practise as an Attorney and Solicitor therein, respectively.

Of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Cornwall; praying for the passing of an Act to confirm the Survey of part of the said Town made by John S. Bruce, Esquire, in February, 1854.

Of William Morrison and others, of the Parish of Berthier, District of Montreal; praying for the passing of an Act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating Liquors except for medicinal and mechanical purposes.

Of the President, Directors and Company of the Port Dalhousie and Thorold Railway Company; praying for an Act to increase their Capital Stock, and to enable them to extend their line of Railroad to Port Colborne on Lake Erie, and to any part of the Niagara River.

Of the Municipality of the United Counties of Wentworth and Halton; praying that the Clergy Reserve Lands may be devoted to public Municipal purposes.

Of Hilaire Allard and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; praying that those persons who have settled in the Eastern Townships coming under the name of Squatters, may be protected by Law in the rights they have so acquired.

Of J.E. Ferte and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; praying for certain

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amendments to the Municipal Law, and the consolidation of the Road Laws, of Lower Canada.

Of Charles Charpentier, senior, and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; praying that compensation may be granted to Jurors attending on duty in Lower Canada.

Of W.S. Griffin and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; praying that the annual grant for Public Education may be increased to One hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS<sup>1</sup> rose and said, Mr. Speaker, I am about to move that the Orders of the Day be postponed until Monday next, and in submitting that



motion it is my duty to state to the House, what is probably already known to a great many honourable gentlemen,--that I felt it my duty this day, in conjunction with my honourable colleague, the Commissioner of Crown Lands (Mr. Morin), to tender our resignations to His Excellency the Governor General, that His Excellency has been pleased to accept our resignations, and that we now only hold office until our successors shall be appointed. I desire, Sir, to trespass on the time of the House for a few moments while I briefly assign the reasons that have led to our taking this step.

I shall not, Sir, go back--for I deem it unnecessary to do so--to any matters connected with the formation of the Administration that preceded the present one, and of which I had the honour to be a member. But I shall content myself with stating that after that Administration had been some time in office, after we had carried, by very considerable majorities, measures which have been received, I believe, with very great satisfaction by the country at large--measures that we shall always be proud to have our names identified with, and to which, as they are recorded on the Statute Book of the country, I do not think it necessary to refer more particularly at present--during the Session of 1851 we had such evidence of the disorganization of the party in Upper Canada; by whose support and confidence we had been enabled to conduct the affairs of the Province, that at a late period of that Session, my honourable and learned friend, the then Attorney-General for Upper Canada (Mr. Baldwin) was under the necessity of tendering his resignation. I was then, as Mr. Baldwin has since felt it necessary to explain, although it was not made public at the time, most anxious to retire with him from the Government. Mr. Baldwin strongly urged upon me the importance for the interests of the great party with which I have the honour of being connected, of not taking that step. He conceived that the measure on which the Government had, so far as Upper Canada was concerned, been defeated by a very large majority, was one with which he, as Attorney-General of the Province, was more particularly identified, and for which he was more especially responsible, and he did not think that I should be justified in tendering my resignation at that time. It is perfectly well-known that the honourable and learned gentleman who is the present Chief Justice of Lower Canada (Mr. Lafontaine), and who had been the leader of the Administration for his section of the Province, and in reference to whom it is unnecessary for me to say now, for I have often had an opportunity of doing so before, that I have always looked up to him with the highest respect and admiration, had then announced his intention of withdrawing at the close of that Parliament from public life altogether. Under these circumstances, we felt that the best course we could pursue was to endeavour to carry on the public business of the country during the few days that had to elapse before the close of the Session, and to resign at the earliest moment that His Excellency could have an opportunity of forming a new Administration. When my honourable and learned friend, Mr. Lafontaine, tendered his resignation, His Excellency the Governor General did me the honour to send for me in conjunction with my honourable friend the Commissioner of Crown Lands (Mr. Morin), to consult with us in regard to the formation of a new Administration. Upon one point my honourable friend and I have always been agreed, and that is, that it is most important to the interests of this country that the Administration should, if possible, command the confidence of both sections of the Province (hear, hear.) I do not mean to say that it is always possible, but I think every honourable member will admit that it is, at all events, exceedingly desirable. (Hear, hear.) I felt at that time that I could, in conjunction with my honourable and learned friend, form an Administration which would command the general confidence of the country.

It is my particular desire on the present occasion, in making this short

statement of facts, to avoid any thing at all like controversy. I will not therefore refer to certain charges made in regard to combinations, more particularly by the honourable member for Lambton (Mr. Brown) but I shall take an opportunity on some other occasion of vindicating the course I followed at that period. It is sufficient for me now to say that I felt at that time that it was exceedingly desirable, with a view to preserve the integrity of the Reform party in Upper Canada with which I had always been identified, to seek for the support of those who enjoyed the confidence of that section of the party which had for some time been in strong opposition to the Administration of which I had been a member, if it could be done without any compromise of principle on my part. I avail myself of this opportunity of referring publicly to the most important circumstance in connection with the formation of that Administration and which perhaps led to the difficulties which have existed and which are existing even at this moment. I desire now to state what were my views at the time that Administration was formed. While I was most anxious as a member of the Reform party to use my utmost exertions to bring to the support of the Government the assistance of gentlemen commanding the confidence of that section of the party which had opposed me, I felt that I should be dishonoured as a public man if I did so by the sacrifice of those men who had faithfully adhered to the Administration of which I had been a member, and who had at all times consistently supported Mr. Baldwin and myself when in office. Prominent among the gentlemen who stood in that position was my honourable and learned friend, Mr. Justice Richards, then member of Parliament for the County of Leeds. Mr. Richards had always given a cordial and consistent support to our Government. I felt that if, in conjunction with my honourable friend Mr. Morris, the Speaker of the Legislative Council, and the honourable member for Glengary (Mr. McDonald), who was then Solicitor General, I had invited gentlemen belonging to what might be called the Opposition into our Government, and had entirely excluded gentlemen who had always adhered to us, on the plea of maintaining the integrity of the party, my character as a public man would have been compromised. Well, Sir, I opened negotiations with a view to the formation of an Administration. Prior to that I believe a great deal of conversation had taken place with regard to the manner in which that Administration was to be formed. The honourable and learned member for Glengary will allow me to say, without meaning any reproach, that I believe he is rather fond of making combinations before being properly authorized to do so (hear, hear). At all events, it had been industriously given out, although perhaps not by him, that my honourable friend, Mr. Cameron, the present Postmaster General, was to be a member of the Administration as well as my honourable and venerable friend the member for Norfolk, Dr. Rolph, and such was the public expectation. I invited the honourable member for Norfolk to join the Administration and assist in carrying it on, informing him at the time of doing so that it was my intention to offer the Attorney Generalship for Upper Canada to Mr. Richards. The honourable member, after some correspondence, did the only thing he could honourably have done under the circumstances: he said he could not accept office without the assistance in the Administration of Mr. Cameron. The honourable member for Glengary at that juncture had refused to accept the office of Commissioner of Crown Lands which was offered him, and I was thus enabled to do what I could not otherwise have done--place a department at the disposal of Mr. Cameron. The Administration was then formed which has with slight modification continued to the present time. We have carried through a number of measures. I will not refer to them at all in detail, because, as I said in reference to the measures of the preceding Administration, they are upon the Statute Book of the country, and I am quite willing that the country shall judge whether they have been meas-

ures of progress and generally acceptable to the people. The Administration was opposed, I believe at the very outset, in the most strenuous manner by the honourable member for Lambton (Mr. Brown) who had been a distinguished member of the Liberal party, and in adverting to the honourable gentleman, I must do him the justice to say that there is one thing I like about him, and it is that he has always been straightforward in his opposition (hear, hear). There is no misunderstanding him at all events. He took his course--he was determined to destroy the Government<sup>2</sup>.

MR. BROWN, hear, hear.<sup>3</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS [continued:] I wish not to disparage my opponents. I wish to believe that the course they take is the one which they consider best calculated to promote the interests of the country. I am willing to give the honourable member for Lambton the same credit which I trust he would accord to me. I am willing to believe that he thought he would promote the best interests of the country by obstructing the progress of the Administration. He at all events took that course at the beginning and has persevered in it ever since. Well, sir, by degrees an opposition sprang up in the ranks of the Liberal party, and the result was that at the last Session of Parliament, the disaffection was so great that the Administration was left in a minority.

Now what I more particularly desire to call the attention of the House to is this--that throughout all these proceedings my honourable and learned friend beside me (Mr. Morin) has received a cordial support from a parliamentary majority from Lower Canada (hear, hear,) not composed of men of any particular origin; for I am sure my honourable friend knows as well as I do that some of our firmest and most unwavering supporters from Lower Canada have been of English origin, and we feel towards them the same affection and gratitude that we do for all our other supporters. (Hear, hear.) My honourable friend has throughout received a cordial support from his friends, and I may be permitted to say, now when we have gone out of office, and are little likely again to return to power, that no man in this House better deserves such support than my honourable friend (hear, hear). Of him and his colleagues from Lower Canada I can hardly trust myself to speak, lest my feelings should overpower me in attempting to express my esteem for them. They have throughout received that cordial and unwavering support without which, I maintain, it is utterly impossible for any Government to carry on the business of this or any other country. When Parliament met some months ago it was evident that there was a very strong opposition to the Administration from Upper Canada. That opposition proceeded from various causes and from different sections. A majority of the House having concurred in a vote which we considered as equivalent to a vote of want of confidence, we believed it to be our duty, in the interest of the party with which we were connected, and to secure the carrying out of the great measures before the country, to advise His Excellency the Governor-General to dissolve the existing Parliament with a view to an appeal to the people.

Mr. Speaker, I shall never regret that course. It was taken with a great deal of deliberation. The policy which to some extent caused the necessity of that dissolution--the policy of postponing the settlement of the great questions then pending with regard to the Clergy Reserves and the Seigniorial Tenure until a new parliament should be elected, is one which I am perfectly certain the public opinion of this country will sustain when all the present contentions are over, and I believe that nothing will have a greater tendency to secure a satisfactory adjustment of those questions than the course of the Administration at that time. The dissolution of Parliament took place. The result was precisely what we had anticipated. A very large majority of the members elected



were in favour of those measures and especially of the one in relation to the Clergy Reserves which was brought most prominently before the country. His Excellency has been advised to state in the speech from the throne that the opinion of the country has been expressed upon that question in no equivocal terms. I am sure honourable members on all sides of the House will admit that there can be no doubt about that. Well, Sir, we met Parliament; up to that time we had every reason to believe that the Government would be sustained. The first question which arose, as a matter of course, was the election of a Speaker. I may be permitted to say, now that it is all over, that I had a very strong opinion upon that subject, and I shall state that opinion without any reservation. That opinion was that if we were beaten on the Speakership, the Government could not last a week. I say this because certain Members of this House, professing to be friends of the Administration but who pride themselves on not being "party men," thought the question of the Speakership one of no importance whatever to the country, and determined to vote for whoever they pleased. Well the election for Speaker took place, and the Government was beaten by a majority of three. From the time that division took place we have had indications every day--aye, every hour--that gentlemen whom we had reason to expect were friends of the Administration did not intend to support it. (Hear, hear.) In reference to the Speakership, I must mention that the Government candidate for that office was supported by a very fair majority from Lower Canada. (Hear, hear.) My honourable friend from Verchères (Mr. Cartier), the defeated candidate for Speaker, has at all events, the satisfaction of knowing that the Representatives of Lower Canada, where he is best known gave him a good majority of votes (Ministerial cheers). But the Administration was defeated on the Speakership by a majority of 12 from Upper Canada. Honourable members who understand the position of public men will believe that this was a cause of very great embarrassment to me in the position that I occupied. In endeavoring to sustain my honourable colleague (Mr. Morin), I expected to be able to bring to his support the confidence of a majority of the Representatives of that portion of the Province to which I more particularly belong, so as to enable us conjointly to carry on the Government. The vote on the Speakership plainly indicated that I should not be able to do that. Immediately after that vote I fully made up my mind that it was utterly impossible for me to continue to conduct the Government of the country with any sort of satisfaction, even if we should happen to have a majority on the Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne. I was perfectly certain that the majority, if any, could not be more than two or three, and that there would be a majority against us from Upper Canada. I felt that I should not be justified in remaining in an Administration with my Colleagues from Lower Canada when I could not command the confidence of the section of the Province to which I belong. I determined, however, to let the debate on the Address come on in the House and be carried to a vote, and then take my own course afterwards. But yesterday evening a question of privilege affecting the seat of an honourable member of this House came up unexpectedly by me. Some gentlemen may not regard it as a question of very material importance, but I and my honourable colleagues take a different view of the subject. For myself I can only say that I did not know until I came into the House yesterday evening that such a question was likely to arise. I found that the honourable Attorney General for Lower Canada wished to have twenty-four hours to consider the course that should be taken in regard to it. I certainly do not think the demand was an unreasonable one (hear, hear.) I think it desirable that before action is taken upon such questions some time should be allowed for consideration. However, the Government was unable to get a postponement of the question, and we were exposed to taunts of which I



do not complain, for they were well deserved and well applied. We were told by the honourable and learned member for Toronto (Mr. Cameron), that we were placed in a position where important proceedings were going on and we were not able to direct them. This was true, and we were certainly placed in a very embarrassing position. Feeling this strongly, I considered it my duty not to lose any further time in pursuing the course which I had determined on. Accordingly I communicated in the course of the debate last night with my honourable friend (Mr. Morin) and told him that it was my determination to tender my resignation. My honourable colleague, feeling, I am sure, that the course I proposed to take was a proper one, under the circumstances, joined with me in it. This morning we tendered our resignations to His Excellency, and those resignations, as I have already informed the House, have been accepted.

Mr. Speaker, there is one other point which I must crave the indulgence of the House to allude to. In the course of discussions here and elsewhere certain charges personal to myself have been made. I do trust honourable gentlemen opposite will do me the justice to believe that I have no desire to avoid a full investigation into these charges. (Hear, hear). I stated during the late Session that it was my anxious desire that such an investigation should take place.<sup>4</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE, hear, hear.<sup>5</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS [continued:] I am anxious now that it shall take place. I am anxious to submit to the judgment of the House any charges that can possibly be brought against me.<sup>6</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE, hear, hear.<sup>7</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS: With regard to the attacks which have been made upon me and which I do not desire now to characterize, all that I have to say is, that I can afford to forgive the authors of them. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) When I hear the honourable gentleman opposite (Mr. Mackenzie) cry "hear, hear," I cannot help being reminded of one fact at all events that will be a consolation to me whatever may happen hereafter. That honorable gentleman who cries "hear, hear," threatened over and over again during the last Session, as honourable gentlemen must well recollect, that he would turn me out of the County of Oxford. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) He told the House again and again that it was through his influence that I sat as the member for the County of Oxford. (Renewed cries of hear, hear.)<sup>8</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE, no, no.<sup>9</sup>

MR. INSP. GEN. HINCKS.--I say yes, yes. The honourable member came up to the County of Oxford with which I had been connected for many years, and the confidence of the people of which I had received many proofs of possessing. He came to my meetings. He advanced all his charges. He spoke for hours on various occasions. He circulated all kinds of hand-bills, Message extras, Globe extras, Examiner extras, North American extras, and how many votes did his candidate get? (Loud cries of hear, hear.) Why just 23! (Renewed cries of "hear, hear," from both sides of the House), and I was elected by a majority of above 350, a larger majority than I had ever received before. (Loud cheers). And not only that, but I had the gratification of being also returned for the County of Renfrew, a County into which I had never been, where I had never solicited a vote, and into which I did not enter during the election (renewed cheers.) I shall conclude--only occupying the time of the House to read an extract from a speech of the late lamented Sir Robert Peel, which I feel is

not inapplicable to my situation:

"They (the Ministry) felt that being in possession of the entire confidence of the King, and having received from His Majesty the most cordial and unremitting support--looking to the present position of affairs and the present state of political parties--looking to the strength, not only the numerical but the moral strength, of that great party by which they had had the honour of being supported, they felt it was their duty, under existing circumstances, to continue the attempt of administering public affairs, as responsible advisers of the Crown, to the latest moment that was consistent with the interests of the public service, and with the honour and character of public men. (Cheers.) When he did not hesitate to avow the reluctance with which they had tendered their resignations, he believed he should have credit (much cheering, both sides [of] the House) that that reluctance arose from public considerations alone (renewed cheering), and was wholly unconnected with everything of a personal nature. (Hear, hear, and much cheering, particularly from the Opposition.) He had a strong impression that when a public man at a crisis of great importance undertook the public task of administering the affairs of the country he incurred an obligation to persevere in the administration of those affairs as long as it was possible to do so consistently with his honour. (Hear, hear.) No indifference to public life, no disgust with the labours which it imposed, no personal mortifications, no deference to private feeling, could sanction a public man in withdrawing on light grounds from the post in which the confidence of his Sovereign had placed him. (Much cheering.) But at the same time there was an evil in exhibiting to the country a want on the part of the Government of that support in the House of Commons which could enable it satisfactorily to conduct the public affairs, and which could enable it to exercise a control over the proceedings of the House, a legitimate and necessary control conferred upon it by the possession of confidence. (Hear, hear.) There was an evil in such an exhibition of weakness to which limits must be placed, and he must say, in reviewing all that had occurred since the commencement of the Session--looking to the little progress the Government had been able to make in the business of the country--looking at what had occurred on each of the last four nights, to the fact that ministers had on each of the four nights to be left in a minority, considering that that minority was smaller in relation to the majority than the minorities they had been in at the commencement of the Session--adverting also to the fact that they had received the support of those who, not having general and unlimited confidence in the Government, yet had given to the Government a cordial and honourable support (cheers) on every occasion in which it was consistent with their public principles to give it--adverting to all these considerations he must say that, in his opinion, the time was come when it was incumbent on ministers of the Crown to withdraw from the responsibilities which office under such circumstances imposed on them."

I desire to add nothing, continued Mr. Hincks, to these remarks of Sir Robert Peel<sup>10</sup> and I thank the House for the kindness with which they have listened to me.<sup>11</sup>

Nor shall I trespass much longer on the time of the House. Having tendered my resignation I am now like any other member upon this floor, and know nothing at all of what is going forward. But I desire to say that at this crisis in the affairs of the country--and I look upon it as an important crisis--I do trust public men will be influenced, not by selfish considerations, but by a patriotic desire to carry out those great measures which the interests of the

country demand (hear, hear). For my own part, for the present at all events, I am desirous of taking my seat by my honourable friend the member for the County of Lincoln (Mr. Merritt), who has been described rather wittily by a newspaper in the City of Toronto as a "governmental impossibility." (Laughter.) In thus retiring from official life, it would of course be absurd for me to say that I have no enemies; for I am under the impression that I have a great many. But it is most gratifying to me to know that at all events I have a great many friends (hear, hear,), and they are not altogether confined to my own county, where the honourable member for Lambton stated that I owed my election altogether to my success in making friends. I have the satisfaction of feeling that in this House a very large number of the members have honoured me with their personal friendship. (Hear, hear.) I am referring at this moment more particularly to those with whom I have acted in public life. I feel more especially grateful for the support they have given me, but I do trust that there are a great many also in the ranks of the Opposition with whom I am on terms of friendship and with whom I shall at all events be able to continue on those terms when I no longer occupy a seat upon these benches. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) I now move that the orders of the day be postponed until Monday next.<sup>12</sup>

At the conclusion of this speech, MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN was so much affected that he shed tears<sup>13</sup>.

MESSRS. YOUNG, MERRITT, CAUCHON, and others, walked across the room and shook hands with Mr. Hincks.<sup>14</sup>

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*Ordered, That the Order of the day for taking into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature, be postponed until Monday next.*

*Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Hincks, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin,*

*The House adjourned until Monday next.*

## APPENDIX: 8 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: BEAUHARNOIS CANAL DAM DAMAGES.]

MR. SOMERVILLE [gave notice that] on Tuesday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency, the Governor General, praying that he will be pleased to cause to be laid before the House copies of all correspondence with the Commissioner of the Board of Works relative to damages done by the dam at the head of the Beauharnois Canal and also a statement of all monies paid in compensation of said damages or otherwise.<sup>15</sup>



## FOOTNOTES: 8 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. The version of the resignation speech of Francis Hincks which follows is taken from Reminiscences of His Public Life by Sir Francis Hincks, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Montreal: William Drysdale, 1884). This version is identical except for minor changes in punctuation or grammar to that published by Hincks in pamphlet form as one of the Documents Relating to the Resignation of the Canadian Ministry in September, 1854 (Quebec: n.p., 1852 [i.e. 1854]). MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 22 September 1854, says about the pamphlet, "We received, two days ago, a pamphlet published at Quebec, containing Mr. Hincks' speech on the resignation of the Ministry.... The speech is merely 'a corrected version of that which appeared at the time in the newspapers....'" See MORNING CHRONICLE, 9 September 1854, for the original report.
2. Reminiscences.
3. IBID.
4. IBID.
5. Reminiscences. The other reports all describe Mackenzie's cheers as "ironical."
6. Reminiscences.
7. IBID.
8. IBID.
9. IBID.
10. IBID.
11. MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 9 September 1854.
12. Reminiscences. According to LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854, Hincks' "explications ont été reçues avec le plus grand respect...."
13. MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 9 September 1854.
14. IBID.
15. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 12 September 1854.



MONDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(17)

THE following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Felton,--The Petitions of Iona Division, No. 290; of Aqueduct Division, No. 85; of Cascade Division, No. 155; of Lenox Division, No. 32, and of the St. Thomas Division, No. 196, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Sidney Smith,--The Petition of Spring Bank Division, No. 306, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Mackenzie,--The Petitions of Canborough Division, No. 231; and of Jarvis Division, No. 132, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; and the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Horton.

By Mr. Ferres,--The Petition of the Reverend John Cook, D.D. and others, of the City of Quebec.

By Mr. Fergusson,--The Petition of the Municipality of the Town of Guelph.

By the Honorable Mr. Cameron,--The Petition of the Hamilton and Toronto Railway Company, and others; the Petition of the Bank of Upper Canada; and the Petition of the Reverend William Ritchie, of the Township of Georgina, and others.

By the Honorable Mr. Robinson,--The Petition of the Canadian Institute of Toronto.

By Mr. Fournier,--The Petition of Nazaire Caron and others, President, Vice-President, Secretary, and others, on behalf of the Association of Teachers of the County of L'Islet.

By Mr. Roderick McDonald,--The Petition of Robert Brown and others, land-owners in the fourth Concession of the Township of Cornwall.

By Mr. Loranger,--The Petition of Alexander D. Sauvageau, Esquire, of the Parish of St. Hugues, District of Montreal, an Elector of the County of Bagot.

By the Honorable Mr. Young,--The Petition of Mrs. Mary Fulford and others, Directresses and Lady Managers of the University Lying-in Hospital, Montreal.

By Mr. Chisholm,--The Petition of George K. Chisholm, Esquire; the Petition of William Clarke and others; and the Petition of Justus W. Williams and others.

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By Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion,--The Petitions of A. Fortin and others; of J.B. Dion and others; of Pierre Bruneau and others; of Joseph Bélanger and others; and of Charles Héon and others, all of the Township of Blanford; and the Petition of Stanislas Picher and others, of the Township of Bulstrode.

By Mr. Daly,--The Petition of A. McNabb and others, of the County of Bruce.

By Mr. Wright,--The Petitions of Whitby Division, No. 31; and of Richmond Hill Division, No. 83, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Solicitor General Ross,--The Petition of E. Duchesnay, Esquire, and others, School Commissioners, and others, of the Parish of Ste. Marie de la Beauce, County of Beauce.

By Mr. Powell,--The Petition of George Morgan and others, of the Township of March, County of Carleton.

By Mr. Biggar,--The Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Burford.

By Mr. Brown,--The Petition of Robert Christie, Esquire, a Candidate at the recent Election of a Member to represent the County of Gaspé.

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:--

Of the Reverend L.M. Archambault, of the Parish of St. Hugues de Ramsay, County of Bagot; praying aid for the establishment of Houses of Education in the said Parish.

Of the Commissioners of the Port Hope Harbour; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of the Peterborough and Port Hope Railway Company; praying for the passing of an Act to amend their Act of Incorporation, and to change the name of the said Company to the Port Hope, Lindsay, and Beaverton Railway Company.

Of the Reverend Gideon Shepard, Secretary, on behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada; praying for a prompt and equitable settlement of the Clergy Reserve Question.

Of the Brockville and Ottawa Railway Company; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of Lewis Rose and others, of the County of Stanstead; praying for an Act of Incorporation to enable them to establish a Bank in the said County, to be called the Saint Francis Bank.

Of James Reid, President, and F.W. Sherriff, Secretary, on behalf of the Huntingdon Academy; praying for an increased annual aid in behalf of the said Academy.

Of James Reid, President, and F.W. Sherriff, Secretary, on behalf of the Directors of the Huntingdon Academy Association; praying for an Act of Incorporation.

Of the Reverend P.H. Suzor and others; and of Hilaire Leduc and others, of the Township of Bulstrode, of the Parish of St. Christophe d'Arthabaska, praying that the annual grant for Public Education may be increased to One hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

Of N.A. Beaudet and others, of the Parish of St. Christophe d'Arthabaska; and Ulric Regnaud and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; praying that the United Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska may be separated, and each entitled to send a Representative to Parliament.

Of John George Crebassa, President, and others, on behalf of the Library Association and Mechanics' Institute of Sorel; praying for aid.

Of R.N. Watts, Esquire, and others; praying for an Act of Incorporation under the name of the Sorel, Drummondville, and Richmond Railway Company.

Of the Reverend P.H. Suzor and others, of Arthabaska and other Townships in the Judiciary Circuit of Arthabaska; praying that the Act 16 Vic. cap. 194, may be amended by substituting the Parish of St. Christophe for the Parish of St. Norbert, as the Seat of the said Circuit.

Of Stanislas Picher and others, of the Township of Bulstrode; and of the

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Reverend P.H. Suzor and others, of the Parish of St. Christophe d'Arthabaska; praying that those persons who have settled in the Eastern Townships coming under the name of Squatters, may be protected by law in the rights they have so acquired.

Of Godefroy Liévin and others, of the Township of Bulstrode; praying that the Laws regulating the Municipal system of Lower Canada may be consolidated and amended.

Of the Municipality of the Town or Borough of William Henry, known as Sorel; praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate the said Town, under the name of the Town of Sorel.

Of Wellington Division, No. 40; of Laskay Division, No. 226; of Triumph Division, No. 351; of Oxford Division, No. 383; of Wilton Division, No. 50; of Gananoque Division, No. 6; of the Six-Line Division, No. 84, and of Marysburg Division, No. 321, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; praying for the passing of an Act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating Liquors, or otherwise to enable Voters at the next General Election to express their opinion on the subject.

Of His Grace the Archbishop of Quebec and others, Members of the Corporation of the Seminary of Nicolet; praying for aid in behalf of the said Seminary.



Of Alexis Bisson and others, of St. Rémi; praying for indemnity to all those persons who have been unjustly excluded from the benefits of the Act granting indemnity to Sufferers by the Rebellion of 1837 and 1838.

Of the Montreal Ladies' Benevolent Society; praying for aid.

Of the Bank of Montreal; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize the increase of their Capital Stock, and to amend their Act of Incorporation.

Of Gabriel Valois, Esquire, School Commissioner of Pointe Claire; praying for aid in behalf of the Academy at that place.

Of the Reverend J.B. St. Germain, of the Parish of St. Laurent, County of Montreal; praying for aid in behalf of the Industrial Academy in the said Parish.

Of the Reverend Louis Proulx, Curé of Ste. Marie de la Nouvelle Beauce; praying for aid in behalf of the Seminary established in the said Parish for the education of Girls.

Of the Corporation of the College of Ste. Marie, at Montreal; praying for aid.

Of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Montreal; praying for aid in behalf of the National School of the said City.

Of the Municipality of the Township of Wainfleet; and of the Grand Division of the Order of the Sons of Temperance of Canada West; praying for the passing of an Act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating Liquors.

Of the Municipality of the Township of Wainfleet; praying for the sale of the Clergy Reserve Lands, and that the proceeds may be applied to the support of Common Schools.

Of the Reverend H. Routier and others, of the Parish of St. Joseph, Pointe Lévi; praying aid for the establishment of a Seminary for the education of Girls in the said Parish.

Of the Reverend L.D. Déziel and others, of the Parish of Notre Dame de la Victoire; praying aid for an Industrial Academy.

Of William Ford, the younger, and others, of the City of Kingston, and others; praying for an Act of Incorporation, under the name of the British and North American Express Company.

Of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Bytown; praying that the water and mill privileges recently leased by the Government at the Chaudière Falls, may be improved by the construction of a Dam and the stretching of a Boom from Table Rock to the Island above the Falls.

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Of John Jermy Macaulay, of the City of Toronto, Esquire; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize the Courts of Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Chancery, in Upper Canada, to admit him to practise as an Attorney and Solicitor therein, respectively.

Of the Honorable Pierre J.O. Chauveau and others, of the City of Quebec; praying for an Act of Incorporation under the name of the Quebec and Saguenay Railway Company.

Of Godefroy Liévin and others, of the Township of Bulstrode; and of the Reverend P.H. Suzor and others, of the Parish of St. Christophe d'Arthabaska; praying that Jurors in Lower Canada may be paid as are others serving in the Administration of Justice.

Of the Reverend P.H. Suzor and others, of the Parish of St. Christophe d'Arthabaska; praying for the consolidation of the Laws regulating the Municipal system of Lower Canada, and that the Road Law may be rendered more simple and practicable.

Of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Toronto; praying for certain amendments to the Act authorizing the construction of an Esplanade in the said City.

*Of the Municipality of the Village of Preston; praying that the Act incorporating the Galt and Guelph Railway Company may be so amended as to allow Municipalities holding Stock in the said Company to vote thereon.*

*Of the Galt and Guelph Railway Company; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation, with power to extend the said Railway to Owen's Sound, on the Georgian Bay.*

*Of Joseph Wright and others, Reeves and Deputy Reeves of the County of Peel; and of J.C. Prosser and others, of the Township of Albion, County of Peel; praying that the said County may not be separated from the County of York.*

*Of Wolfred Nelson, Esquire, and others, Members of the British American Friendly Society of Canada; praying for an Act of Incorporation.*

*Of the Ladies Office-bearers of the Montreal Protestant Orphan Asylum; praying for aid.*

*Of L'Institut Canadien of Montreal; praying for aid.*

Sur motion de MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN,<sup>1</sup>

(20)

*Ordered, That the Orders of the day be postponed until Wednesday next.*

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN rose and said, in French,<sup>2</sup> qu'il croyait nécessaire de revenir sur les faits qui se sont passés depuis le commencement de la présente session.<sup>3</sup> They had already been sufficiently explained by his hon. friend the late Inspector General.<sup>4</sup> Pour qu'un gouvernement puisse se maintenir et gouverner avec avantage, il faut qu'il reçoive un support zélé et cordial de la majorité de la représentation. Durant les premiers jours de la session, il a été facile de se convaincre que le gouvernement n'avait pas un tel support dans la représentation Haut-Canadienne. Dans ces circonstances, celui qui était à la tête du ministère a cru qu'il était justifiable, et même de son devoir envers son pays, d'offrir sa résignation. Quant à lui, (l'hon. M. Morin) il n'hésita pas à concourir dans cette détermination. Sa résignation fut, en conséquence, offerte et acceptée, mais en l'acceptant, Son Excellence voulut bien retenir les mêmes ministres en office jusqu'à ce qu'une nouvelle administration fut formée.

M. Morin avait le plaisir de pouvoir annoncer à la chambre que Son Excellence le gouverneur-général avait réussi à reconstituer son gouvernement. La partie Bas-Canadienne de l'administration reste la même, y compris le solliciteur-général.

Quant au Haut-Canada, sir Allan Napier McNab ayant été appelé à former une administration et ayant fait à M. Morin l'honneur de le consulter, s'est assuré les services et la coopération de l'hon. William Cayley comme inspecteur général, de l'hon. John Ross, comme président du conseil législatif avec une (*sic*) siége dans le cabinet, de l'hon. John A. McDonald, comme procureur général, de l'hon. M. Spence, comme maître général des postes. Sir Allan occupera lui-même, comme premier ministre, le poste de président des comités du conseil exécutif, et Henry Smith, écr., représentant du comté de Frontenac, celui de solliciteur général.

M. Morin dit qu'il ne croyait pas nécessaire de donner toutes les raisons qui ont conduit à cet arrangement.<sup>5</sup> It was not necessary to go into details of the circumstances that had led ... to the retirement of the hon. member for South Oxford from the Government. It was enough that he should express there his high sense of the independence, the patriotism, the generosity, the uprightness, and the self-sacrificing spirit of that hon. member (Mr. Hincks). He (Mr. Morin) hoped that justice would be done to him by the country.<sup>6</sup> Considérant l'état de désorganisation des partis politiques du Haut-Canada, voyant

qu'il s'en formait chaque jour de nouveaux et qu'aucun de ceux qui existaient ne commandait une influence suffisante pour diriger les affaires publiques, tous les hommes modérés qui désirent que le gouvernement soit bien administré, ont compris qu'il fallait une combinaison quelconque.<sup>7</sup> In a country like this, it was necessary that a Government should be formed to carry on the public business.<sup>8</sup> Il fallait un gouvernement, et il le fallait le plus tôt possible. C'est ce que l'hon. membre pour Hamilton avait très-bien compris, ainsi que ses nouveaux collègues qui lui ont donné leur concours.<sup>9</sup> Sir Allan MacNab had been sent for by the Governor General, and had asked his (Mr. Morin's) assistance, and the result had been the formation of the present Ministry. He had no doubt of the necessity of the position of the hon. and gallant knight, that led him to seek assistance on his (Mr. Morin's) side of the House.<sup>10</sup>

La partie Bas-Canadienne reste la même parce qu'elle a toujours eu le support de la majorité de la représentation de cette section de la province, et ensuite parce que la nouvelle combinaison n'exige aucun sacrifice de principe de sa part. Les ministres Bas-Canadiens étaient bien décidés à n'accepter aucune autre al[1]iance que celle qui leur donnerait les moyens de faire triompher leurs principes. Maintenant, ceux qui ont consenti à reconstituer la partie Haut-Canadienne de l'administration ont reconnu que l'opinion publique leur imposait le devoir de faire quelques sacrifices dans l'intérêt de la bonne administration des affaires. Ils ont décidé d'accepter le verdict du peuple donné d'une manière non-équivoque durant l'élection générale. Sur ce principe, ils ont tâché de former une administration forte pour le Haut-Canada, et les hommes raisonnables sauront leur rendre justice et apprécier leurs motifs, en attendant qu'ils soient à leurs places pour se justifier eux-mêmes.<sup>11</sup> He did not doubt that the hon. and gallant knight was actuated by a spirit of the purest patriotism, in bending before the expressed will of the country with reference to the Clergy Reserves. There were no differences in the Cabinet on that question, nor on any other great question.<sup>12</sup>

La preuve que les ministres du Bas-Canada ne font aucuns sacrifices de principes, se trouve dans le fait que l'adresse en réponse au discours du trône, préparée avant la résignation de M. Hincks, est acceptée, telle qu'elle était, par le nouveau gouvernement. Les mesures qui sont mentionnées dans ce discours ne sont pas abandonnées.<sup>13</sup> Sir Allan and the new Ministers were prepared to accept all the recommendations of the Governor's speech--as well with reference to the question he had just particularly mentioned, as the constitution of the Legislative Council, the Seigniorial Tenure, the Reciprocity treaty, and measures of trade--in short there were no differences of opinion in the new cabinet. He was aware that Sir Allan and his friends had formerly opposed the secularization of the Clergy Reserves<sup>14</sup>. Quand ils seront de retour dans la chambre, ils diront eux-mêmes les raisons pour lesquelles ils consentent maintenant à passer une mesure dans le sens populaire. Ils ont des précédents très-respectables pour justifier leur conduite.<sup>15</sup> In doing so they would be following out the patriotic example of Sir Robert Peel, notwithstanding their previous opposition to that question<sup>16</sup> because the whole country required it. He (Mr. Morin) had long believed that the Reserves ought to be secularized.<sup>17</sup>

La mesure relative au conseil législatif, et la mesure pour abolir la tenure seigneuriale ne rencontrent pas d'obstacle.

Il n'y a point non plus, de différence d'opinion au sujet du traité de réciprocité. Jamais personne ne s'y est objecté.

Il n'y en a pas plus sur la question de réduire le tarif des douanes.<sup>18</sup> He should then move that the House adjourn till to-morrow to allow the Ministry to arrange their plans. The hon. member, put his motion, and then made his explanations in the English language to precisely the same effect as the remarks



that have been above reported.<sup>19</sup>

MR. HINCKS then rose and said, that in view of the position he lately occupied, and in view also, of all the rumors afloat in the public mind, he felt it to be his duty to take the earliest opportunity of making a frank, open and candid statement to the House of everything that had happened since he had last the honour of addressing the House<sup>20</sup>. He trusted the House would listen to him with the same degree of patience and attention. He should make his remarks as brief as possible, but he did desire to stand fair before the House and fair before the country. He trusted he should receive credit for what he was going to say, and also for having acted in a proper manner. He spoke upon the honor of a gentleman.<sup>21</sup> He hoped honorable members on all sides would at least do him the credit to believe that he had pursued that course which he supposed the interest of his country required.--Throughout his official career he (Mr. H.) had received from the Governor General that confidence and support which any minister who might be called to power had a right to expect, and he desired to take this, the earliest opportunity of referring to the subject as there were rumors afloat that personal prejudices, and personal difficulties had prevented his Excellency from sending for certain persons on the present occasion. At their closing official interview His Excellency had informed him that when he came to this country he determined, unlike some of his predecessors, not to allow his personal feelings to control him in the choice of an administration<sup>22</sup> desiring to avoid that source of trouble which some of his predecessors had had. He (Mr. H.) had not advised the Governor to send for Sir Allan. It would have been impertinent for him to have done so unless his advice had been asked, and it was not. He had heard rumors to the effect, that it was owing to his (Mr. Hincks) advice that the Governor had sent for Sir Allan. He knew not how those rumors had arisen unless from the naturally suspicious minds of some men. He declared, however, on his most sacred honor, that he had never given any such advice to the Governor.<sup>23</sup> Il [le] nia avec toute l'énergie dont il est capable, disant que si ce qu'il allait dire n'était pas l'exacte vérité, il avait pour le démentir un noble lord anglais<sup>24</sup>. He thought that after a minister had resigned he had no right to presume to offer advice to the Governor General as to what course he should take. His Excellency, however, did inform him befor[e] leaving him that it was his intention to send for the hon. and gallant Knight.<sup>25</sup> He believed a large majority of the real and true supporters of the late administration would stand by him in the position he was now about to assume in supporting the administration as it had been reconstructed and he believed that that reconstructed administration would command the support of a majority of the Upper Canadian Representatives.<sup>26</sup> Les mécontents avaient dit que c'était lui qui avait fait cette administration<sup>27</sup>. He (Mr. H.) had never dreamed of such a ministry as that which was now formed. He had thought that it might have been reconstructed from the ranks of the Reform party; and when he found that he was not likely to have such support as would enable him satisfactorily to carry on the gover[n]ment, he had advised the gentlemen on the reform side to hold a meeting and elect another leader. He had indicated the hon. member for London, Mr. Wilson, as a proper person. That meeting was held in accordance with his advice, and<sup>28</sup> the choice of the true and staunch supporters of the late administration fell almost unanimously on the honorable member for London (Mr. Willson (sic)), for leader of the party.<sup>29</sup> He had never, as it had been falsely rumored, had any communication previous to that time with any member on the Conservative side of the House relative to the making of alliances for the formation of another government, and he regretted the honorable members for



Hamilton and Kingston were not in their places to confirm his statement. He never had one word with any gentleman on the Conservative side previous to his resignation, on the subject of alliance. He was thus particular in that statement because it was industriously rumored by men who were only guided by their suspicions, that<sup>30</sup> a coalition with Sir A. MacNab had been arranged before the meeting of Parliament. This was an infamous slander.<sup>31</sup> What he was then about to state would be confirmed by his honorable friend the Commissioner of Crown Lands.<sup>32</sup>

Sa résignation avait été offerte à ... Son Excellence et acceptée après la séance de jeudi, c'est-à-dire vendredi matin. Durant tout le jour, il n'a rien appris de ce qui se passait.<sup>33</sup> At about nine o'clock on Saturday morning, that honorable gentleman (Mr. Morin) called on him, and told him that Sir Allan McNab had been in conversation with him, and had asked his assistance relative to the formation of a new Cabinet, but that before giving any answer he desired to obtain his (Mr. Hincks') advice. He (Mr. H.) knew that his honorable friend (Mr. M.) could never consent to abandon one of the principles of his party, and his first impression was, that the honorable and gallant knight could not agree with him, but on learning that the honorable and gallant knight was ready and determined to give up his former position, told his honorable friend (Mr. M.) that he would be justified in uniting with the honorable and gallant knight, if he could get an Upper Canada majority to<sup>34</sup> carry out the leading measures of the late administration<sup>35</sup>. He said that he (Mr. H.) could not join the combination, but he thought it competent for his honourable friend to make it.<sup>36</sup> He (Mr. H.) would give it a cordial support, although of course, he could have nothing to do with it. Subsequently, on the same day, he learned that the honorable and gallant Knight had undertaken the task of forming a (sic) an administration and of carrying out those great measures in regard to which the opinion of the coun[t]ry had been unequivocally expressed.... Undoubtedly the honorable and gallant Knight was placed in a difficult and embar[r]assing position<sup>37</sup> and it was one that he (Mr. H.) should not like to occupy<sup>38</sup> but precedents for the course he was pursuing had been set by some of the most illustrious statesmen of England. He confessed his profound astonishment at the course of Sir A. MacNab, but had no objection to the coalition.<sup>39</sup> He (Mr. H.) declares most solemnly that he had never even believed that such a Ministry could have been made. He had never imagined that it was possible, and he was most surprised at the result. He repeated most solemnly, that he had not only not been of it, but had never even thought of it until his honorable friend (Mr. Morin) called on him on Saturday last.<sup>40</sup> He then related a subsequent interview with Sir Allan McNab, who called upon him, in which the latter declared his conviction that the country demanded the measures of the late ministry and that he was prepared to form a coalition in good faith and feeling to carry these measures<sup>41</sup>. An invitation [came] from Sir Allan to give his opinion as to the possibility of getting the support of the friends of the late (sic) Gov't. on the basis of a cordial co-operation.<sup>42</sup> He (Mr. H.) stated it was his belief that the new Ministry would have to take in a couple of Reformers to command the confidence of that side of the House from Upper Canada, and he had recommended Mr. Spence and the Hon. John Ross. The honorable and gallant knight expressed his readiness to accept of the services of those honorable gentlemen, and he (Mr. H.) then said that he was the last man to abandon his honorable friend (Mr. Morin). The support he gave was personal to Mr. Morin, and he repeated that he never contemplated giving his support to such a combination.<sup>43</sup> He (Mr. H.) gave a promise of support to the coalition formed to carry these measures. At that time, he had not consulted with any of his friends;

and promised for himself only. He was glad, however, to have since received the assurance that the administration formed to carry these measures would receive the support of a large majority of the Upper Canada Reformers who supported the late administration. He then named several gentlemen of that party who had given promises of support to the new ministry.<sup>44</sup> A coalition between Reformers and liberal Conservatives was natural.<sup>45</sup> Sir Allan McNab avait reconnu qu'il lui était impossible de former une administration sans le support du parti ministériel du Haut et du Bas-Canada. M. Hincks fit observer que le représentant du comté de Lambton, M. George Brown, s'il voulait être ferme dans ses principes, ne pouvait pas s'opposer à la nouvelle administration, puisque, durant les élections, il avait supporté les candidats conservateurs de préférence aux candidats ministériels, dans tous les comtés où les deux partis se trouvaient en lutte.<sup>46</sup> He had consulted his friends from Upper Canada and believed a large majority of them would support the new administration (Hear, hear.) He did not allude to the members from South Wentworth (Mr. Freeman) or North York (Mr. Hartman) the man by whose treachery the late administration had been broken down, but to those who had given an honest and cordial support to that administration. (Hear, hear.)<sup>47</sup> He went on to contend that it [the coalition] was a very natural consequence of the kind of opposition that the late Government met with from such men as the hon. members from North York, South Wentworth, Middlesex, Lennox and Addington, and Northumberland. He asserted that he would never consent to hold office and receive support such as some of these men were disposed to give him. Looking at the state of parties in the House, he believed that the new Ministry was the only combination likely to obtain a strong majority. He believed it would carry the great measures that the country desired, and that the country would approve of it. It might be bitterly attacked by certain parties, but it would command itself to the sober sound sense of the country. Mr. Hincks proceeded to refer to divisions in the reform ranks, caused by Messrs. J.S. MacDonald and George Brown, and contended that they produced a pernicious effect on party lines.<sup>48</sup> He believed that the honorable member for North Wentworth (Mr. Spence) and the honorable Speaker of the Legislative Council, (Mr. Ross,) who had accepted office under the new administration, after advice and consultation with their political friends, would be sustained by the country. (Loud cries of no, no.) Mr. H. then referred to the course of the honorable member for Glengarry, (Mr. Macdonald) who had combined with a party (the Rouges) which was in a decided minority in Lower Canada, and thereby excluded himself from any alliance with the coalition, and moreover rendered it impossible that he could form any administration.<sup>49</sup> He reported the statement currently circulated and even admitted by two of the newspaper organs of the member for Glengarry, that the coterie with which that gentleman has lately been acting had a new administration all cut and dried awaiting only the summons of His Excellency to give it vitality.<sup>50</sup> He taunted Messrs. Macdonald, Freeman and Hartman with having made improper and unsuccessful combinations to bring themselves into power. He eulogized Mr. Spence and said that his acceptance of office was a guarantee to the Reformers of Upper Canada, that the great questions before the country would be speedily and satisfactorily settled by the new administration (sic). He concluded by claiming credit having pursued in this crisis an honest course, and the one which he believed the interests of the country required.<sup>51</sup> He believed that the new combination had honesty at the bottom, and it was such an one as must take place in all countries in similar circumstances. He should give it his cordial support, so long as it adhered to the principles of its formation.<sup>52</sup>

MR. MERRITT said that no event had taken place in Canada since the estab-

lishment of responsible Government that would cast more gloom over the province than the events of the last few days. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) Two-thirds of the representatives from Upper Canada were returned as reformers, and yet under this new coalition they were made to succumb to the one-third who were elected by the opposite party. (Hear hear.)<sup>53</sup> Where ... was the necessity of asking the aid of Conservatives to carry out reform measures? For his part, he had never conceived that the Speakership was a party question.<sup>54</sup> He (Mr. M.) came down to Quebec resolved to support the Administration, but he had also made up his mind before he left home to vote for the honorable member for Glengarry as Speaker. He never considered the Speakership a party question, and was not prepared to take a party view of such a question.<sup>55</sup> The Speaker was not and ought not to be a party man, else what confidence could be had in his decisions? The reformers at the meeting referred to by the late Inspector General were prepared to support the leadership of Mr. Wilson. Why, then, did the Reform party not adhere to him? Why were they to be handed over to the Conservatives? (Loud cries of hear.)<sup>56</sup> He contended that the double majority was now introduced, but in such a manner as to give the Government to the minority from Upper Canada.... The people would give Sir A. McNab credit for coming in by a contrivance to make them govern by a double majority.<sup>57</sup> He believed that a majority of the Reformers from Upper Canada came down here to sustain the late Inspector General. (Loud cries of hear, hear.)<sup>58</sup> Could not the two-thirds of the House form a ministry and carry its own measures? There is, Mr. Speaker, some deep scheme in this combination; it is not decent; it is not honest. Sir Allan McNab ought not to abandon the principles of his whole life to obtain office. The country ought not to permit it. (Hear, hear.)<sup>59</sup> He had no disposition to censure Sir A. McNab but he could not believe that that honorable and gallant knight would be sustained in his present position by the people of Upper Canada, who knew that for 30 years he had been battling against those who advocated the secularization of the Clergy Reserves. (Cheers.) A minority had been put into power to govern a majority. (Hear, hear.) That was the result of the present coalition. It was now a grave question whether Reformers ought or ought not to allow Sir Allan to go on and carry the great reform measures--whether they should receive those great measures from the hands of their opponents?<sup>60</sup> He did not feel certain if the members on that side of the House should permit such an apostacy--should accept secularization from the hands of Sir Allan MacNab,--or if they accepted secularization from him, he did not know if it would not be best to turn his ministry out immediately afterwards.<sup>61</sup> He desired first to ascertain whether it was by a pre-concerted and treacherous scheme that this coalition had been formed. (Hear, hear.) He had his doubts about that. He had never known a similar transaction since he had been in public life. He desired to say distinctly that for one he had never intended to separate from his party. He had never intimated directly or indirectly that he would not sustain the late administration and he could see no reason why this extraordinary course of forming a coalition should have been adopted. (Hear hear.)<sup>62</sup> With reference to the great measures before the country, he did hope that they would be settled before the Governor General left the country. He much regretted the extraordinary proceeding that had taken place.<sup>63</sup>

MR. HARTMAN had been referred to by the late Inspector General, or he would not have said a word. He had not come here with his hands tied. He had not come here pledged to support any man or set of men. He had not come here with his mind made up either to support or to oppose the ministry. He came here to carry out those great principles which, as a Reformer, he had always advocated,



and he defied the ex-Inspector General to point to any act of his since he had been in Parliament having a tendency to obstruct legislation upon those questions. He had voted against the late administration more than once, and thereby incurred the displeasure of the ex-Inspector General, but he had the satisfaction of knowing that his constituents approved his course. Measures not men was his motto. But they had been informed beforehand on high authority that the speakership was not to be made a ministerial question. The honorable member for North Wentworth (Mr. Spence) so stated nominating the gentleman who was now claimed to have been the ministerial candidate. Mr. H. then denied having taken any part in the formation of any combinations hostile to the late administration, and avowed his determination to accept a measure for the secularization of the Clergy Reserves,<sup>64</sup> provided it suited his ideas,<sup>65</sup> by whomsoever (sic) offered or advocated. (Hear, hear.) He must not be understood as having confidence in the combination which had been formed. Far from it. Still if he believed that combination would honestly carry out the wishes of the country he would support it, incongruous as were the materials of which it was composed. (Hear, hear.)<sup>66</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD, of Glengarry, believed it was not usual for members of a retiring administration to make explanations such as they had heard, but he was not surprised at the eagerness of the late Inspector General to exculpate himself from the charge of concocting this extraordinary and unprecedented coalition.<sup>67</sup> Nor did he (Mr. McDonald) think the hon. member had cleared himself of the charges made against him out of doors.<sup>68</sup> The honorable ex-Inspector General had given the House a candid, fair, and open explanation--one no doubt satisfactory to himself, but whether it would be satisfactory to the people of Canada remained to be seen. No one who heard that explanation could doubt that the new administration owed its existence to the honorable member for Renfrew. (Hear, hear.) The coalition was formed by the advice and assistance of that honorable gentleman.<sup>69</sup> The late Inspector General had himself informed the House that he had advised Mr. Morin to accept an alliance with Sir Allan McNab and the Conservatives, after he himself had lost the confidence of the House. Yet that same hon. gentleman had only in the previous breath told the House that he had recommended the Reformers to call a meeting and elect Mr. Wilson for leader. How could he, after having advised the Reformers to place Mr. Wilson in that position, advise Mr. Morin to accept the services of Sir Allan McNab and the Conservatives. When Mr. Morin called on him, he ought to have told him to refuse to aid Sir Allan, and to adhere to Mr. Wilson, and he ought to have told Sir Allan the same thing. That was the only course open to Mr. Hincks, if he had been true to his party.<sup>70</sup> Yet he was now sustaining a combination in which Mr. Wilson had neither part or parcel.<sup>71</sup> He held that this Ministry was formed at such a sacrifice of principle as was never known in this country before. No thanks would be due to any Ministry for taking up and settling the great measures that had agitated the country, for no Ministry could ignore them. Here Mr. McDonald went on to reply to the remarks which Mr. Hincks had made personal to him. He said all the trouble had arisen from the hasty course taken by the Ministry at the meeting of Parliament in June last.<sup>72</sup> Mr. McD. then contended that the Clergy Reserves and Seigniorial Tenure questions ought to have been settled by the last Parliament, and condemned the hasty and ill-considered dissolution of that Parliament.<sup>73</sup> They ought then to have brought the Franchise Act into operation also. As it was, the present House was only elected by the same constituency that elected the last,--all the difference was, that there was (sic) now 130 members instead of 84. The late Inspector General had sacrificed Reformers for the sake of



throwing himself into the arms of the Conservative opposition. He (Mr. McDonald) held that if that hon. gentleman had been true to his party, he would not have taken that step till every possible reform combination had been tried. And who were those that he had joined? The men that had taunted him in the most shocking manner of being guilty of corruption, jobbing and every possible political crime. The men who demanded a Committee for the investigating of his jobbing and corruptions. What was the country to think of his throwing himself into the arms of such men? What was the House to think of it? He (Mr. McDonald) further considered that if Mr. Hincks had been true to the cause of Reformers, he ought to have called a meeting of his friends before he resigned, and have prepared them for the step--that would only have been a usual course. The House would yet see whether the great measures the country desired would be carried by this Parliament at all, and the Reformers might yet learn the whole extent to which they had been sold by the late Inspector General.<sup>74</sup> He promised, however, to be ready to carry the measures of the late ministry, if undertaken in sincerity. If those measures were endangered, however, it was by the late prorogation by which the government had been thrown into the hands of those who had been all their lives opposed to them. He proposed that the late Inspector General would induce the new administration to carry out those measures at once. He had little confidence that they would not be protracted again.<sup>75</sup>

MR. FELTON said that before the present arrangements had been made, he would have preferred an alliance with gentlemen opposite (the rouges)<sup>76</sup>. [He] maintained that if the reformers from Lower Canada were found to-day in strange alliance, it was in a great measure owing to the course pursued by gentlemen like the member from Glengarry. (Hear, hear). That honorable member deserted the late administration just as soon as he thought its downfall was certain. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) The liberals of Lower Canada had stood firmly by their colours but the liberals of Upper Canada had fallen victims to the treachery of some of their number. (Cheers).<sup>77</sup> The Liberals from Lower Canada, were a compact body; those from Upper Canada were split up into sections<sup>78</sup>. In concluding, he attacked the member for Sherbrooke, (Mr. Galt), for having given notice of his intention to move amendments to the address when he professed to be a supporter of the administration<sup>79</sup> and joining the Rouges when he saw the power was passing out of its hands.<sup>80</sup>

MR. GALT defended himself.<sup>81</sup>

MR. CAUCHON spoke for some length of time in French. He reviewed his political position, and contended that there never had been any cordial union between the Upper Canada Liberals and the majority of the French from Lower Canada.<sup>82</sup> Il se déclara d'opinion que jamais le parti réformiste du Haut-Canada n'avait été sincère envers le peuple du Bas-Canada. Il rappela divers actes à l'appui de cette opinion, et entre autres la place donnée à M. Roblin pour le détacher du parti, et la scission du parti qui a conduit à la retraite de l'hon. M. Baldwin. Il rappela aussi l'alliance avec le parti clear-grit qu'il combattit par sa parole et sa plume, soutenant que la seule alliance naturelle pour nous était celle des conservateurs. Il dit qu'on lui reprocha, lorsqu'il énonça cette idée, de vouloir s'allier aux meurtriers, et aux incendiaires de 1849, et qu'il supplia alors ses adversaires d'oublier le passé dans l'intérêt de l'avenir. Il n'avait jamais eu en vue que les intérêts publics qui doivent être la base de toutes les alliances politiques. Il se dit heureux de voir que son idée est acceptée et que ceux qui l'ont combattue l'approuvent aujourd'hui.<sup>83</sup> He (Mr. Cauchon) had often been blamed by Mr. Morin and his friends for desiring to bring about a conservative alliance, but now he did not blame

them for having brought it about--it was the necessity of their position.<sup>84</sup> Si on lui demande ce qu'il va faire, il répondra qu'il ne repoussera pas une idée qu'il a défendue depuis longtemps, seulement parce que ses adversaires l'ont acceptée aujourd'hui. Au contraire, son triomphe le réjouit. L'homme public doit savoir ce que sont les revers. M. Cauchon déclara donc, dans l'enceinte de la chambre, qu'il acceptait l'alliance nouvelle.

Il fallait absolument des combinaisons, et celle-là lui semblait la meilleure. Quand des alliances de partis différents deviennent nécessaires, il faut des sacrifices de différents genres, d'opinions et surtout d'affection. Un homme public doit se prêter à cela.

Cependant, tout en acceptant l'alliance du parti conservateur et du parti réformiste modéré du Haut-Canada, M. Cauchon se prononça contre quelques-unes des mesures acceptées par le ministère nouveau. M. Cauchon est opposé à la mesure qui aurait pour but de rendre le Conseil Législatif électif. Il fit aussi ses réserves sur la question de séculariser les Réserves du Clergé.<sup>85</sup>

MR. FREEMAN felt it necessary to reply to the allusions the late Inspector General had made to him. He spoke at some length on matters personal to himself, and stated that his constituents had not sent him to that House to support any particular men. They only required from him the support of measures. The late Inspector General had not shewn that measures were jeopardized.<sup>86</sup> The voice of Upper Canada had been clearly and emphatically expressed on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, and<sup>87</sup> he had not shewn any good reason for the most unholy alliance that he had made<sup>88</sup> between the reformers and those who had been their opponents for thirty years.--(Hear, hear.) It was admitted that no divisions could hazard the settlement of that great question; for now, even the conservatives were prepared to yield to the irresistible tide of public opinion. There was no doubt as to that; but the question was, whether the late Inspector General should continue at the head of the Government, and that was a question about which reformers were divided. He denied that the new combination would receive the confidence of the reformers of Upper Canada. What confidence had the country ever shown in the late Attorney General and present Speaker of the Legislative Council, (Mr. Ross)? None. He had been appointed to office without receiving the sanction of the people. The honorable member for North Wentworth (Mr. Spence) would be the only guarantee the reformers of Upper Canada would have for the liberality of the new administration.<sup>89</sup> He did not believe the country could approve of it, or that Mr. Spence could secure his re-election. As to Sir Allan and his confreres, they had betrayed their constituents; and he did not believe that they could so suddenly have honestly changed the convictions of a life-time, no they only changed them for an expediency--for office. The late Inspector General was the supporter of this turpitude. He ought to have told them he would not permit them to be guilty of such apostacy for the sake of office. There was no necessity for the combination. The reform party desired to purify its own ranks, and it had materials enough for leaders. The greatest difficulty that it had before the country, were the jobs and alleged corruptions of the late Inspector General.<sup>90</sup> He (Mr. Freeman) confessed that he had not the utmost confidence in the Upper Canada members of the late Administration. (Cheers.) The Administration were defeated in the last Parliament and appealed directly to the people, and in that appeal even their own candidates did not dare to come forward and avow their confidence in the Administration. It was not for him to decide whether the charges against the late Administration were all true; it was sufficient for him to know that the country had expressed its want of confidence in that Administration. Mr. Freeman then de-

nounced the new coalition as a combination which was not demanded by the political necessities of the times, and which could not be justified unless some urgent necessity for it existed.--The Inspector General (he contended) must feel some gratitude for the support he had received from the Upper Canada reformers, and must also feel that his Administration had forfeited the confidence of the country. That Administration had projected gigantic railroad schemes and kept them within its own control.<sup>91</sup> The Attorney General, whose duty it was to see that no more debentures were given to the Grand Trunk Railroad than it was legally entitled to, they found was the president of that road; and what impartiality was to be expected from him? His partner was the Solicitor, and it was his duty to get as many debentures as he could. A lawyer in one of the Lower Courts would be ungowned if he held such a position.<sup>92</sup> The Attorney General, West, was at the same time President of the Grand Trunk Railway, and Solicitor and Adviser of the Contractors. No wonder then that the confidence of the country in the Administration was shaken. Mr. Freeman, in conclusion, denied that he had taken part in any combinations, and contended that the recent conduct of Sir A. McNab was not at all analogous to that of Sir Robert Peel in reference to the Corn Laws, because the latter avowed a change of his own opinions, whereas the ... [former] could not deny that for the sake of office he had entered into an unholy alliance for the purpose of carrying out measures to which he had been opposed throughout his whole political career, and in regard to which his opinions remain unchanged.<sup>93</sup>

MR. GALT enquired when ministers intended to proceed with the debate on the address.<sup>94</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN replied that they would do so as speedily as possible.<sup>95</sup>

MR. GALT would wait until the debate came on to express his opinion in regard to the coalition which had been announced by the late Inspector General.<sup>96</sup> [He] defended himself from the charge made against him by Mr. Felton.<sup>97</sup> He stated in reply to Mr. Felton that his views were much more liberal than those of the late Administration, and that that Administration never expected much support from him.<sup>98</sup> He said the Government always understood that his support depended on their taking decisive action in the Clergy Reserves and Seigniorial questions. The speech from the throne was not sufficiently decided for him, and he had notified the Government of the fact immediately.<sup>99</sup> The reference in the Governor General's speech to the Clergy Reserves and the Seigniorial Tenure were not such as to meet the wishes of the country.<sup>100</sup>

MR. CAMERON felt called upon, as a friend of Sir A. McNab, to say a few words, as that honorable and gallant gentleman was not here to answer for himself in regard to his course in reference to these combinations. He thought the attacks upon Sir Allan premature and unfair, as that gentleman was not here to defend himself.<sup>101</sup> The House should wait till their [Upper Canadian ministers] return before canvassing their conduct.--He (Mr. C.) did not doubt they had acted from the purest motive, although he would rather that they, like him, had been unable to sacrifice their principles on the Clergy Reserves and Legislative ... [Council] questions.<sup>102</sup> He (Mr. C.) and those who acted with him were willing to give Sir Allan credit for high patriotic motives in thus undertaking to carry out the known views of a majority of the House<sup>103</sup> after the country had pronounced so emphatically.<sup>104</sup> Although he (Mr. C.) had not changed his views in reference to the Clergy Reserves question, he would still give to the new Administration a generous and cordial support upon other questions. He believed the Administration were sincere in their determination to secularize



the Clergy Reserves, and that they would do it promptly. (Cheers.)<sup>105</sup> Their sacrifice was great, but having resolved to make it, they would not falter in carrying it out.<sup>106</sup> Whatever they undertook to do, they would, he was sure, do faithfully. He (Mr. C.) could not help saying that he thought an alliance between the conservatives of Upper Canada and those gentlemen from Lower Canada was a natural alliance, (hear, hear,) as the time might come when there would be a similar attempt to sweep away church property in Lower Canada as there was now in Upper Canada. He expressed his individual regret that the Clergy Reserves were to be swept away, but declared that on the dissolution of last Parliament it was agreed by the conservative party that the question of the Clergy Reserves should be an open question<sup>107</sup> and ... the result of the election had been to return a large majority of members, on both sides of the House, in favor of secularization.<sup>108</sup> Much sacrifice was justifiable to keep the Government out of the hands of the Lower Canada Rouges and Upper Canada Clear Grits. He did not doubt that when his hon. friends returned from the country they would be able to justify their conduct.<sup>109</sup>

MR. RANKIN would support any Administration that was prepared to carry out such measures as would promote the interests and prosperity of the country. It was certainly a strange spectacle to see Sir Allan McNab coming forward as the advocate of measures which he had been consistently opposing for the last twenty years; but if the honorable and gallant knight were sincere in his purpose of secularizing the Clergy Reserves, of promoting Reciprocal trade with the United States, and of introducing the elective principle into the Legislative Council, he (Mr. R.) would give him his support.<sup>110</sup> If Sir Allan McNab was prepared to turn round and support secularization, that point was for him and his constituents to settle between them. What he (Mr. R.) wanted was secularization.<sup>111</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND thought it was only fair to the administration that they should be allowed some little time to deliberate as to the manner in which their measures should be taken up. They asked no unnecessary delay;--they asked but 24 hours for deliberation and consultation<sup>112</sup> and that was much less time than new Governments commonly require.<sup>113</sup> The remarks of the gentleman from North York (Mr. Hartman,) and South Wentworth (Mr. Freeman,) were premature and out of place. It would be time enough to discuss those questions when the debate on the address came on. At that time, the members of the late administration would doubtless be prepared to defend themselves.<sup>114</sup> He considered it unfair to attack Mr. Hincks in his absence, and complained particularly of that of Mr. Freeman. That was not a proper time to accuse him of corruption<sup>115</sup>. The late Inspector General had already avowed his willingness to submit to an investigation into the charges brought against him in his public career. It would be well if every public man could point to so useful and honorable a career during seven years. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. D.) had known the late Inspector General since 1843 and could bear testimony to his straight-forward and honorable course. His present withdrawal from office, when gentlemen opposite admitted he might have been sustained, was a proof that he was not actuated by selfish motives. But combinations had been resorted to to defeat that gentleman, a majority of the U.C. representatives had been alienated from him and he therefore felt it would be dishonourable and degrading for him to retain office. The present Speaker of the Legislative Council (Mr. Ross) had been charged by the Hon. member for South Wentworth (Mr. Freeman) with receiving money immediately from the Grand Trunk Railway.<sup>116</sup>



MR. FREEMAN denied that he had intended to make any such charge.<sup>117</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND would like then to know what the gentleman's remark meant? (Hear, hear.)<sup>118</sup>

MR. FREEMAN had not intended to make such a charge. He had merely referred to the fact that the late Attorney General West (Mr. Ross) was appointed President of the Grand Trunk Railway while at the same time he, or his partner was Solicitor to the road.<sup>119</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND replied that the allegation was incorrect. The present Speaker of the Legislative Council never was Solicitor of the Grand Trunk Railway<sup>120</sup>. He had never received a farthing from the Grand Trunk Railway--nor was his partner solicitor to it<sup>121</sup> although a gentleman who had once been his partner was.<sup>122</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD (Glengarry) thought the House ought in fairness to adjourn and give the ministry time for deliberation. (Hear hear.)<sup>123</sup>

DR. ROLPH said that he rose not to make a speech at a moment, which did not call for it, but simply to avow an opinion at the earliest opportunity, lest silence might lead to misconstruction. He held the coalition, which had just been announced, as unwise, uncalled for and unjustifiable, as a coalition destructive of the integrity of party and of the principles upon which party is founded. (Cheers.) He felt therefore, bound to declare the coalition unworthy [of] the confidence of the House or of the country; and he hoped and believed there were spirit and independence enough in the Reformers of [t]his House and of Canada to meet the emergency and frustrate so unworthy a combination. (Cheers.)<sup>124</sup> [He] denounced the combination in the strongest terms, and characterized it as an infamous and unparalleled apostacy--the blackest and most unprincipled that he had ever known.<sup>125</sup> He expressed this opinion (and it was only an opinion he intended to express) with regret, because he saw honorable gentlemen with whom he had acted, placed in this painful dilemma, under a course which was dangerous to the purity of government, abhorrent to every true Reformer, and, to say the least, dangerous to the honor and integrity of public men. (Loud Cheers.)<sup>126</sup>

MR. MURNEY was somewhat astonished that no Conservative member had yet come forward to explain the views of that party. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen holding what they were pleased to call liberal views had come forward and avowed themselves in favor of this, that and the other.--But not one single Conservative--and he had acted with that party for nearly 20 years of public life--had yet dared to come forward and express an opinion of those who had sacrificed themselves and their party: and for what? For a few paltry thousands a year. (Loud Cheers.) It amounted to that and nothing more nor less.--They had sold themselves and were trying to sell their friends<sup>127</sup> but they would not sell him for one.<sup>128</sup> (Renewed Cheers.) Men who had been in opposition to each other ever since the union, were now coalescing, (Hear) and for what?<sup>129</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE.--Plunder! (Cheers.)<sup>130</sup>

MR. MURNEY, yes, for plunder. If these same measures were to be carried out, why not let the late Inspector General carry them out? (Hear, hear.) Why discard him--why turn him to the right about--why trample upon him!--(Loud Cries of Hear, hear.) Surely his public and private character were worth something and yet he was dismissed without even a fair hearing. (Cheers.) He (Mr.

M.) would like to ask Sir Allan MacNab, and therefore regretted his absence, how or why he was going to carry out the very identical measures of the late cabinet? He could not do it without giving the lie to his whole political career. (Cheers.) A ministry composed of such discordant materials must split upon the first public question that comes up. (Renewed Cheers.) He was surprised at the statement of the honorable gentleman for Toronto, that the Conservative party at the close of the last Parliament agreed to an elective Legislative Council.<sup>131</sup>

MR. CAMERON had not said that. He had merely said that the Conservative party agreed to make the Clergy Reserves an open question (Hear, hear.)<sup>132</sup>

MR. MURNEY said that he for one, had never agreed to anything of the kind. He would like to know whether the honorable gentleman had any authority for making that avowal and if so, who was his authority.<sup>133</sup>

MR. CAMERON did not think it necessary to state his authority on the floor of the House, although he would have no objection to answer the gentleman's question privately. Nor being a minister of the Crown, he was not subject to be interrogated publicly. (Laughter.)<sup>134</sup>

MR. MURNEY believed that sundry persons representing a portion of the country met at the close of last Parliament and held a confidential conversation. It amounted to nothing more nor less. The gentleman from Toronto was not a party to that conversation, and could have no authority to make such an avowal as he made to-day, unless he received it from one or the other of the parties to that confidential conversation.<sup>135</sup>

MR. CAMERON felt sure that he was surrounded by a large number of Conservative friends, agreeing with him on the Clergy Reserves question, and with the exception of the honorable gentleman (Mr. Murney) those Conservative friends all agreed on the remarks he (Mr. Cameron) had made. (Hear, hear.)<sup>136</sup>

MR. MURNEY asserted that when three or four gentlemen held a private and strictly confidential conversation, it was the greatest possible breach of confidence for one of those three or four to divulge what took place without the consent of all the others. He was present at that conversation, and the honorable member for Toronto never had his consent to make the avowal they had heard here to-day. I tell that honorable gentleman (continued Mr. Murney) and I do not say it insolently or petulantly, that he has broken my confidence, by whose authority I cannot pretend to say but I say distinctly and emphatically that somebody has divulged private and confidential conversation. (Hear, hear.)<sup>137</sup>

MR. GAMBLE had not attended the meeting of the Conservatives which had been referred to, but he had understood at the time that it was not a confidential meeting at all.<sup>138</sup>

MR. MURNEY continued. He, of course, should not oppose those of his party friends, who had gone into the coalition, but he might feel it necessary to resign his seat and go quietly home. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Certainly he should never sell his principles. (Renewed cheers.) He would like to know from some gentleman upon what particular question the amalgamation party were agreed. (Hear, hear.) Oil and water could not mingle. He for one could not support the coalition ministry, and he might feel it necessary hereafter to resign his seat.<sup>139</sup>

MR. CAMERON denied that he had divulged any confidential proceedings. What took place at the meeting of the conservative party to which he had referred

was well known even to gentlemen on the opposite side. (Hear, hear.)<sup>140</sup>

DR. SOUTHWICK made some explanations personal to himself.<sup>141</sup> [He] had come to Parliament to support certain measures and not men. He would accept the secularization of the Reserves by whomsoever (sic) offered.<sup>142</sup>

DR. CLARKE also made some explanations personal to himself.<sup>143</sup> [He] defended Sir Allan McNab, and taxed Mr. McDonald of Glengarry with being the first to seek a combination with the honourable and gallant knight.<sup>144</sup> [He] admitted that Sir Allan McNab had resisted secularization for 20 years; but the opinion of the party had changed, and the question was whether he was not bound to go with them.<sup>145</sup> As a liberal conservative, he (Mr. C.) should support the new administration and should go for the secularization of the Reserves. (Hear, hear.)<sup>146</sup>

MR. FOLEY felt called on to say a few words in consequence of the remarks of the late Inspector General.<sup>147</sup> [He] wished to explain briefly the position of himself and a few friends around him.<sup>148</sup> When he first heard of the present coalition, he asked whether the Attorney General East was one of them, and when informed that he was, he said he could not believe it, for that he was the very last man to make any combination of the kind. He found, however, that it was true, and that that gentleman had asked the House to look back at the past to see if better could be done. On the other hand, he invited the Attorney General East to look back at his journies through Oxford and Kent, and to ask himself what he then proclaimed to the reformers of the West, and compare his position then with that which he held now. He asked whether his present course was such as might have been expected from his statement, then? The truth was, he had handed the reformers over to their enemies.<sup>149</sup> (Cheers.)<sup>150</sup> The speeches of the hon. gentleman then and now would establish the fact, and he did not give utterance to any too harsh expression when he said the hon. gentleman had betrayed the reformers of Upper Canada by an act of the basest treachery.<sup>151</sup> So far from the alliance into which the honourable gentleman had entered being a natural one, it would be looked upon by the Reformers of Upper Canada--even by the ministerial Reformers--as a base betrayal (sic) of the principles of the Reform party, and as an unnatural alliance that could not last. (Renewed Cheers.) The Inspector General, in the course of his remarks, had referred to honourable gentlemen on that side of the House<sup>152</sup> and in spite of the generous support they had given him, had accused them of deserting him.<sup>153</sup> He (Mr. F.) desired in the absence of the Inspector General to speak of him with all becoming respect, but when he spoke of betrayal, he should think of his own course, (Hear, hear,)--it was to him that the reformers of U.C. were indebted for the position in which they now stood. It was owing to that gentleman's course that, with a majority of 35 or 40<sup>154</sup> to 25<sup>155</sup> in the House, they found the government of the country in the hands of their political opponents. (Cheers.)<sup>156</sup> The Reformers of Upper Canada received an intimation that a meeting would be held in Quebec before the assembling of Parliament, for the purpose of selecting a candidate for the Speakership. It was well known that the greatest difficulty those Upper Canadian Reformers had to contend with before the people at the late election was the name of the Inspector-General--the jobs of the Inspector-General and some of his colleagues. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) The only assurance they could give their constituents was, that those jobs were not approved by them, and that they were determined to investigate them.<sup>157</sup> When he came down there, he and his friends expected to attend a meeting to select a Speaker to be looked on as the nominee of the government. He believed the election of such a nominee might have been carried but for the



machinations of parties who now<sup>158</sup> came forward and had the ingratitude to accuse the Upper Canadian Reformers of having betrayed them. (Cheers.) On the contrary, the Reformers of Upper Canada were betrayed. (Hear, hear.) Instead of making the question of the Speakership a Government question, as it ought to have been made, the present Post-Master General (Mr. Spence) and others in the confidence of the Government, represented<sup>159</sup> [to him] on arriving ... that it was stated to be an open question. That was stated in the caucus, and repeated, in the House.<sup>160</sup> The present Post-Master General stated to the House, distinctly and unequivocally, that if it were made a Government question, he could not support the hon. member for Verchères, (Mr. Cartier,) because he (Mr. S.) had not perfect confidence in the Administration, (hear, hear,) and yet he was selected by the Administration above all other Reformers, to propose their nominee! (Hear, hear.)<sup>161</sup> The Inspector General said the same thing, the member for South [ie. North] Oxford in moving [i.e. seconding] the amendment said so too, and said, that if the vote would affect the question of confidence in the Ministry he would not move it. Yet having made all these statements--having led the Reformers into the trap, which they had themselves projected, the Inspector General had the audacity to come to the House, and assert that it was those<sup>162</sup> Upper Canadian<sup>163</sup> Reformers who had forced him to give them over to the hands of their enemies by their vote against government on the speakership.<sup>164</sup> Greater tergiversation or more consummate hypocrisy never was heard of. (Loud cheers.) The Inspector-General now wished it to go out to the country, that Upper Canada Reformers were opposing the measures of the Administration. He (Mr. Foley) came here as a Reformer, and as a quasi, if not an entire, supporter of the Administration. (Hear, hear.) He was still prepared to support secularization, let it come from any side of the House, but he did not choose the impression to go abroad and solemnly protested against the supposition, that a coalition such as had been formed, was an inevitable necessity. (Cheers.) The Reformers from both sections of the Province, had been deceived. (Hear, hear.) The Reformers of Lower Canada had been persuaded that the formation of a Ministry in alliance with Upper Canadian Reformers, was a "governmental impossibility"<sup>165</sup> because, instead of inquiring for themselves, they took for granted the statements of men interested in deceiving them<sup>166</sup> and hence they had allied themselves with their natural enemies. (Cheers.) He protested against the statement of the honorable member for Toronto, (Mr. Cameron), that the Reformers of Lower Canada and the Conservatives of Upper Canada were natural allies. (Hear, hear.) The history of this country for the last thirty years, showed that the contrary was the fact.<sup>167</sup> The reformers of Upper Canada were said to be sold, but they had a power of reorganization which would save them yet; in his opinion<sup>168</sup> the Lower Canadian Liberals had been sold still worse, (Cheers)<sup>169</sup> in losing those who had so long stood by them, and he believed they would find this out when North Wentworth rejected with indignation the new Post Master, and when many other liberal constituencies did the same thing with those who returned to them for re-election.<sup>170</sup> He did not believe any member of the new Administration could sustain himself before a reform constituency. He trusted none would be sustained. In conclusion, he entered his solemn protest against this unholy alliance, and above all, against Lower Canadian Reformers being led to believe that such an alliance was an inevitable necessity.<sup>171</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND replied at some length.<sup>172</sup> [He] wished to say that the honble. member who had just spoken must forget the statements he (Mr. D.) made in Upper Canada, or he would not impute to him declarations the reverse of the truth.<sup>173</sup> He said that in his late visit to Upper Canada and at all



times, he had expressed his readiness to co-operate with his Conservative brethren, if they would agree to a proper settlement of the Clergy Reserve question.<sup>174</sup> At a banquet in Woodstock he had distinctly averred that the only barrier between the conservatives and the moderate reformers was the Clergy Reserves; and he expressed his deep regret that this circumstance excluded the conservatives from a share in the government of the country; at the same time expressing a hope that the question would be speedily settled, and reformers be enabled to unite with conservatives.<sup>175</sup>

MR. FOLEY.--The hon. gentleman must surely forget! Why, on the occasion in question, the burden of his song was all about Tories and Tad-poles.<sup>176</sup> (laughter.)<sup>177</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND replied that he had not combined with Tories or Tadpoles, but with honest and progressive gentlemen, who had now abandoned their old ground and<sup>178</sup> who came forward in the progressive spirit of the age to declare that Reform must be carried, and to beg to have a share in doing it. They came forward as Wellington and Peel had done on similar occasions, and he had no doubt that the present combination would hereafter be looked upon as the most glorious event in the history of the country.<sup>179</sup> Gentlemen might call this combination an "unholy alliance," but it was one of the most glorious triumphs of reform principles ever achieved in the history of politics. (Cheers.) The old conservative party, after battling for years against reform principles, had now the manliness to confess their error and to rally under the same banner with the Lower Canada Reformers. Gentlemen professed not to know on what point the parties to the combination agreed. He would tell them. They agreed upon all important points. They agreed as to the necessity of secularizing the Clergy Reserves. (ironical cheers). That measure they intended to carry through with all possible speed. (Cheers.) They agreed also as to the necessity of the gradual if not immediate abolition of the seignorial tenure (Cheers). They agreed also as to the necessity of introducing the elective element into the Legislative Council. (Loud Cheers). On all these points they perfectly agreed. (Ironical Cheers).<sup>180</sup> The member for Hastings said the elements of the new combination could agree in nothing, why they agreed in everything.<sup>181</sup>

MR. MURNEY (interposing)<sup>182</sup> said the purpose of his remark was to ascertain whether this agreement had been produced by gentlemen opposite selling their constituencies, or by gentlemen opposite being sold.<sup>183</sup> [He] had not the slightest hesitation in expressing the opinion now, that the Conservative party of Upper Canada had been sold as round as a robin. (Laughter.)<sup>184</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND said that no party had been sold but those men professing to be Reformers, who had really attempted to form unholy alliances, and who had gone about the country, and, by accusations which they knew to be false, had attempted to injure in public estimation men whom they ought to have loved and respected. (Cheers.) These gentlemen were indeed sold. The present Ministry would in a few months, carry out the great measures which the country demanded, and which the alliances those gentlemen attempted to form would not have carried out for years. (Loud cheers.) The country would profit by the combination although some individuals might be "sold," and they had to thank themselves alone for it. (Renewed cheers.)<sup>185</sup> No one had been sold but the factionists who had put themselves up for sale.<sup>186</sup> Il ... démontra [à MM. Freeman et Foley] que la faiblesse des administrations réformistes qui se sont succédées avait toujours été causée par l'infidélité de certains réfor-

mistes de la province supérieure. Quand les administrations réformistes ont été laissées dans des minorités parlementaires, c'était toujours le Haut-Canada qui était en défaut. Après cela, de quel droit vient-on se plaindre de ce que les Bas-Canadiens, voyant l'inefficacité de leur alliance avec les exaltés de ce parti, consentent à former une coalition avec les réformistes les plus modérés du Haut-Canada joints aux conservateurs progressistes? Bien loin de se plaindre de cette coalition, les réformistes devraient la regarder comme le plus grand triomphe qu'il soit possible d'obtenir. Des adversaires déclarés sont aujourd'hui leurs amis et sont prêts à coopérer avec eux pour faire les réformes qu'ils demandent depuis si longtemps!

L'hon. membre pour Glengarry avait dit que si M. Hincks avait été sincère, il aurait fait passer ces mesures avant de dissoudre le dernier parlement. L'hon. M. Drummond le pria de jeter les yeux sur le journal de la chambre, pour se convaincre que durant la dernière session le support que le gouvernement recevait de la représentation Haut-Canadienne n'était pas suffisant. Sur toutes les questions importantes,--la représentation du Haut-Canada était presque toujours divisée en parties égales, pour et contre le gouvernement. Etait-ce avec un tel support que le gouvernement pouvait entreprendre de régler des questions de l'importance de celles dont on occupe le pays depuis si longtemps?<sup>187</sup> He concluded by attempting to show that the alliance was granted by the reform part of the cabinet at the earnest prayer of the conservative portion of it, and that reform principles were still safe, since the conservative ministers were only three in a ministry of ten.<sup>188</sup> Sir A. McNab had at once and without demur consented to the introduction of an Upper Canada reform element into his Cabinet so as to secure the confidence of the Upper Canada reform party. He (Mr. D.) would like to know who had proved themselves better reformers than the present Speaker of the Legislative Council (Mr. Ross) and the present Post-Master General (Mr. Spence.) (Cheers and counter cheers.) In entering into this combination the Lower Canada Reformers had sacrificed no principle, but the progressive Conservatives had come forward, adopted their measures and rallied under their banner. The Lower Canada members of the Cabinet had never been abandoned by their peculiar friends, and they would never have consented to enter into this combination had not that course met with the approval of the leading men amongst their brethren; the Reformers of Upper Canada. (Hear hear.) Honorable gentlemen might hold up their hands in horror and talk about "unholy alliances" but posterity would do justice to the motives of those who had entered into this Combination. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Drummond) had met the honorable and gallant knight from Hamilton in honorable opposition upon the floor, but he would be ashamed to assign that as a reason for now refusing to unite with him in carrying out the great measures of the reform party. Did Upper Canada Reformers refuse to sustain Mr. Baldwin's Ministry because forsooth Mr. Sullivan, who was a member of it, had at one time opposed Mr. Baldwin? No; so far from doing it, it was considered at the time that the Coalition was a necessary one.<sup>189</sup>

MR. FOLEY here remarked that Mr. Sullivan had avowed reform principles some time before he went into Mr. Baldwin's Administration.<sup>190</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND contended that it made no difference whether he avowed reform principles a month before or only a day before. Sir A. McNab pledged himself at the last election to vote in favor of the secularization of the Clergy Reserves. (Cries of oh, oh!) But it made no matter how long Sir Allan had been a Reformer, if he was a Reformer to-day. (Ironical cheers.) Mr. D. then proceeded to argue that the late Ministry having been defeated, the

only course the Governor-General could pursue, was to send for Sir Allan McNab, as the acknowledged leader of the regular opposition party; and the largest section of the opposition, and this he had done without the advice of the late Inspector-General or any one else. The honorable gentleman concluded a long speech by expressing his confidence that the new combination Ministry would receive a large and cordial support from the progressive Conservatives, as well as from the Reformers. (Loud cheers.)<sup>191</sup>

Some further debate [followed] in French<sup>192</sup>.

MR. MARCHILDON gave Mr. Morin great credit for his success in converting the conservatives to liberalism; but he warned that gentleman that he must follow the example of the conservatives and become more liberal himself, before he (Mr. Marchildon) would support him.<sup>193</sup>

MR. POULIOT supported the combination as the best mode of obtaining the abolition of the seigniorial tenure, without having effected the settlement of which, he could not go back to his constituents. The worst thing he feared from the combination was, that it might fall in this and other measures.<sup>194</sup>

(20)

*On motion of the Honorable Mr. Morin; seconded by the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond,*

*Resolved, That this House will, at the rising of the House this day, adjourn until Wednesday next.*

*On motion of Mr. Rhodes, seconded by Mr. Felton,*

*Resolved, That this House will, at the rising of the House on Wednesday next, adjourn until Thursday next, at seven o'clock in the afternoon.*

*Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Robinson, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chauveau,*

*The House adjourned.*





APPENDIX: 11 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICES OF MOTION: FOR LEAVE TO INTRODUCE A BILL TO MAKE SHERBROOKE A SEPARATE MUNICIPALITY; TO SUSPEND THE 62ND RULE OF THE HOUSE REGARDING THE BILL.]

MR. FELTON [donne avis que] jeudi prochain [il fera motion pour un] Bill pour constituer le comté électoral de Sherbrooke en une municipalité séparée et y établir un bureau d'enregistrement.<sup>195</sup>

MR. FELTON [donne avis que] jeudi [il fera] motion pour dispenser de la 62e règle de cette chambre, en autant qu'elle a rapport à un bill pour constituer le comté électoral de Sherbrooke en une municipalité séparée, et y établir un bureau d'enregistrement.<sup>196</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO AMEND FORGERY LAW.]

MR. FELTON [donne avis que] jeudi prochain [il fera motion pour un] Bill pour amender et consolider les dispositions de la loi relativement aux crimes de faux.<sup>197</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO PREVENT TRAFFIC IN INTOXICATING LIQUORS.]

MR. FELTON [donne avis que] vendredi [il fera motion pour un] Bill pour empêcher le trafic des boissons alcooliques et enivrantes.<sup>198</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL FOR TEMPERANCE LAW LIKE MAINE'S.]

MR. MACKENZIE [donne avis que] dans quinze jours [il fera motion pour un] Bill contenant des dispositions analogues à celles de la loi du Maine relativement à la tempérance.<sup>199</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: COMMITTEE ON LOWER CANADIAN AGRICULTURE.]

MR. FELTON [donne avis que] jeudi [il fera] nomination d'un comité spécial pour s'enquérir de l'état de l'agriculture dans le Bas-Canada, et des meilleurs moyens d'en améliorer la pratique, et d'avancer les intérêts des personnes engagées dans cette occupation, avec pouvoir d'envoyer quérir personnes, papiers et records.<sup>200</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN PUBLIC OFFICIALS.]

MR. FELTON [gave notice that] on Friday next [he would move] to resolve, That, in the opinion of this House, it is inconsistent with the official position of the high functionaries of this Province, and with the due performance of their duties, and injurious to the public welfare, that any member of the Executive Council, or the Receiver General, Secretary of the Province, Commissioner of Crown Lands, Commissioner of Public Works, Attorney General, Solicitor General, President of the Executive Council, Postmaster General, or speaker of either House of Parliament, should hereafter be, or act, as President, Secretary, or Director, or as the Agent, Attorney, Solicitor of, or Contractor with, any Municipal or Local Corporation, or any Railroad, Bank, Land, or other incorporated Company of any description, or shall receive, directly or indirectly, any payment from any such Company or Corporation, for any service of any description, rendered by him or others; or should speculate, deal, or traffic in the funds of any such Company, or in any funds, stocks, debentures, or bonds of the Government of this Province, or of any Municipal or Local Corporation therein.<sup>201</sup>

## [NOTICE OF MOTION FOR PAPERS OF HAMILTON AND TORONTO RAILROAD.]

MR. CHISHOLM [donne avis que] mercredi [il fera motion] que le greffier de cette chambre requière la compagnie du chemin de fer de Hamilton et Toronto de mettre sans délai devant cette chambre les états suivants:

1<sup>o</sup>. Une vraie copie des noms entrés dans les livres de souscription au capital de la compagnie qui furent ouverts à la banque du Haut-Canada, à Hamilton et à Toronto respectivement, le 18 mars 1853, indiquant le nombre d'actions et les sommes souscrites par chaque personne, et si la souscription a été faite par procureur, alors le nom du procureur, ensemble avec le montant payé par chaque souscripteur ce jour là.

2<sup>o</sup>. Une liste des actionnaires de la dite compagnie à venir à l'époque la plus récente possible, spécifiant séparément le montant possédé par des personnes résidant en Canada et en Angleterre, ensemble avec le montant payé sur chaque part respectivement.

3<sup>o</sup>. Une liste des noms des premiers directeurs de la compagnie indiquant le nombre d'actions souscrites par tels directeurs respectivement s'il y en a, et le montant payé sur icelles à l'époque de leur élection.

4<sup>o</sup>. Un état général des affaires de la dite compagnie, tel que requis par son acte d'incorporation.<sup>202</sup>

## [NOTICE OF MOTION FOR PAPERS OF LONDON AND PORT STANLEY RAILROAD.]

MR. CHISHOLM [donne avis que] mercredi [il fera motion] que le greffier de cette chambre requière la compagnie du chemin de fer de London et Port Sarnia [sic], de mettre devant cette chambre les états suivants:

Une liste des souscripteurs au capital de la dite compagnie aux diverses places où les livres furent ouverts indiquant le nombre d'actions et les sommes souscrites par chaque personne, et si cette souscription a été faite par procureur, alors le nom du procureur ensemble avec le montant payé par chaque souscripteur au moment de la souscription.

Un état des affaires de la dite compagnie, et si quelque amalgamation a eu lieu avec la compagnie du grand chemin de fer occidental, alors la date et les conditions de telle amalgamation, déclarant si le consentement des actionnaires avait été obtenu (sic) ou non.<sup>203</sup>

## [NOTICE OF MOTION FOR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON DECIMAL SYSTEM IN GOVERNMENT BOOKKEEPING.]

MR. MACKENZIE [donne avis que] lundi prochain [il fera motion pour un] Comité de toute la chambre pour considérer l'expédience d'adopter un cours décimal dans la tenue de tous les comptes du gouvernement.<sup>204</sup>

## [NOTICE OF MOTION FOR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TO AMEND 11TH RULE OF HOUSE.]

MR. MACKENZIE [donne avis que] jeudi prochain [il fera motion pour un] Comité de toute la chambre pour amender la onzième règle de cette chambre en insérant, après le mot, "mise aux voix" les mots, "ou qui entrera dans la chambre en aucun temps durant un, (sic) division avant que les OUI et les NON aient été déclarés par le greffier."<sup>205</sup>



FOOTNOTES: 11 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. LA MINERVE, 12 September 1854.
2. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
3. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
4. PILOT, 14 September 1854, which reported that Mr. Morin "said ... it was not necessary that he should go over the circumstances that had led to the late resignation."
5. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
6. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
7. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
8. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
9. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
10. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
11. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
12. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
13. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
14. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
15. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
16. Telegraph (HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 12 September 1854).
17. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
18. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
19. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
20. GLOBE, 16 September 1854.
21. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
22. GLOBE, 16 September 1854.
23. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
24. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
25. TORONTO LEADER, 16 September 1854.
26. GLOBE, 16 September 1854.
27. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
28. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
29. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
30. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
31. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
32. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
33. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
34. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
35. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
36. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
37. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
38. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
39. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
40. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
41. TORONTO LEADER, 16 September 1854.
42. Telegraph (HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 12 September 1854).
43. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
44. TORONTO LEADER, 16 September 1854.
45. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
46. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
47. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
48. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
49. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
50. TORONTO LEADER, 16 September 1854.

51. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
52. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
53. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
54. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
55. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
56. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
57. Telegraph (HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 12 September 1854).
58. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
59. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
60. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
61. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
62. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
63. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
64. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
65. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
66. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854. According to TORONTO LEADER, 16 September 1854, Mr. Hartman "emitted empty nothings for an hour."
67. GLOBE, 16 September 1854.
68. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
69. GLOBE, 16 September 1854.
70. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
71. GLOBE, 16 September 1854.
72. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
73. GLOBE, 16 September 1854.
74. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
75. Telegraph (HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 12 September 1854).
76. IBID.
77. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
78. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
79. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
80. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
81. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
82. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
83. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
84. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
85. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
86. PILOT, 14 September 1854. According to TORONTO LEADER, 16 September 1854, this was Mr. Freeman's maiden speech. A sarcastic commentary is also provided on the speech.
87. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
88. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
89. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
90. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
91. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
92. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
93. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
94. IBID.
95. IBID.
96. IBID.
97. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
98. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
99. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
100. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.

101. IBID.
102. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
103. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
104. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
105. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
106. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
107. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
108. TORONTO LEADER, 16 September 1854.
109. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
110. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
111. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
112. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
113. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
114. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
115. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
116. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
117. IBID.
118. IBID.
119. IBID.
120. IBID.
121. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
122. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
123. IBID.
124. IBID.
125. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
126. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
127. IBID.
128. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
129. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
130. IBID.
131. IBID.
132. IBID.
133. IBID.
134. IBID.
135. IBID.
136. IBID.
137. IBID.
138. IBID.
139. IBID.
140. IBID.
141. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
142. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
143. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
144. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
145. TORONTO LEADER, 16 September 1854.
146. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
147. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
148. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
149. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
150. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
151. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
152. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
153. PILOT, 14 September 1854.



154. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
155. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
156. NORTH AMERICAN, 20 September 1854.
157. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
158. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
159. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
160. MORNING CHRONICLE, 13 September 1854.
161. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
162. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
163. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
164. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
165. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
166. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
167. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
168. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
169. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
170. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
171. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
172. IBID.
173. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
174. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
175. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
176. IBID.
177. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
178. IBID.
179. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
180. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
181. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
182. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
183. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
184. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
185. IBID.
186. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
187. LA MINERVE, 14 September 1854.
188. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
189. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
190. IBID.
191. IBID.
192. IBID.
193. PILOT, 14 September 1854.
194. IBID.
195. LA MINERVE, 16 September 1854.
196. IBID.
197. IBID.
198. IBID.
199. IBID.
200. IBID.
201. Unknown paper in Scrapbook Hansard.
202. LA MINERVE, 16 September 1854.
203. IBID.
204. IBID.
205. IBID.

WEDNESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(21)

LUC HYACINTHE MAFSON, Esquire, Member for the County of Soulanges, having previously taken the Oath according to Law, and subscribed before the Commissioners the Roll containing the same, took his Seat in the House.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald, seconded by Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion,

Ordered, That all the Correspondence which took place between the Returning Officer for the County of Bagot, and the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, before or during the last Election, be now laid on the table, and read.

The Clerk of the Crown in Chancery attended, according to Order, and laid before the House the said Correspondence.

And the said Correspondence was read: and is as followeth:--

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery,  
Quebec, 3rd July, 1854.

Sir,--I have the honor, by command of His Excellency the Governor General, to enclose you the accompanying Writ for the Election of a Member to serve for the County of Bagot, in the Legislative Assembly, with a Commission appointing you Returning Officer.

You will accordingly proceed in the manner and within the time directed by the 12 Vic. cap. 27, (Copies of which Act, and other documents for the guidance of yourself and Deputies, are also herewith enclosed,) and take other requisite steps in pursuance of the requirements of the Law now in force for the Election of Members.

I beg to draw your attention to the two blanks on the back of the Writ which are to be filled up, one, with the date of its receipt and your signature, the other with your signature only, certifying the execution of the Writ. The law directs that your Oath of Office should be annexed to your Return to the Writ, it is however desirable that you should also transmit the Oath of the Election Clerk.

It would be very convenient should the Poll Books be of the size of the enclosed sheet; and I have to request you will be kind enough to sum up at the end of each of the same the number of Votes given to each Candidate respectively, and to furnish me with a statement shewing the recapitulation of the number of Votes in each electoral subdivision for each Candidate, summed up altogether to determine who is the Candidate duly elected.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this letter and accompanying documents, at your earliest convenience.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed,) Félix Fortier,

Clerk of the Crown in Chancery

Timothée Brodeur, Esquire,  
St. Hughes.

-----  
List of Statutes and Documents transmitted.

12 Victoria, cap. 27.

14 & 15 Victoria, cap. 108.

16 Victoria, cap. 7.

16 Victoria, cap. 152.

Blank Indentures.

Size of Poll Books.

True Copy.

Félix Fortier,

Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

(22)

St. Hugues, 10th July, 1854.

Sir,--I have to acknowledge the receipt, by mail of the 7th instant, of the Commission and Proclamation, and other documents, having reference to the Election for the County of Bagot. I accept the charge of carrying out the provisions of the law. I take the liberty of informing you, that I have been brought forward as a Candidate for the representation of this County; I see nothing in the law that prevents it. I shall therefore post up the copies of the Proclamation in the respective places, as required by law, on Wednesday or Thursday. Should any incompatibility exist, however, in the two positions, I would recommend J. Bte. Desrosiers, Esquire, as being highly competent to discharge the duties of this office, which would thus become vacant.

I have the honor to be,

Your most humble Servant,

Félix Fortier, Esquire,

(Signed,)

T. Brodeur.Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, Quebec.

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery,  
Quebec, 12th July, 1854.

Sir,--With reference to your Letter of the 10th instant, in which you inform me that you have been brought forward as a Candidate for the representation of the County of Bagot, permit me to state to you, that I am of opinion, that an incompatibility does indeed exist between the position of a Candidate and the office of Returning Officer; but the decision of this question does not rest with me. If you have acted and continue to act as Returning Officer, with you alone rests the responsibility in case the question should arise as to whether or not you have acted according to Law. I would also direct your attention to 12 Vic. cap. 27, sec. 11, which, perhaps, has some reference to the present case.

If you have not as yet assumed the duties of that office, and if under the circumstances you should deem it advisable to be discharged therefrom, you should forthwith send an express, who might, in case your excuse should be received, take back with him Mr. Desrosiers' Commission. You will be reimbursed the expenses of the express; but if you have already begun to act, I do not see how another person can be appointed Returning Officer.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed,)

Félix Fortier,

Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, &c. &c. &c.,St. Hugues.

True Copy.

Félix Fortier,

Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

St. Hugues, 4th August, 1854.

Sir,--In my quality of Returning Officer for the County of Bagot, I enclose you all the papers and documents having reference to the said County, in accordance with your instructions. I also enclose the Election account.

The Election took place by acclamation.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Félix Fortier, Esquire,

(Signed,)

T. Brodeur.

Clerk of the Crown in Chancery,

Quebec.



(23)

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.  
Quebec, 9th August, 1854.

Sir,--I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, and also of the accompanying documents.

You have omitted to transmit the Certificate of your Oath of Office. Be so good as to forward it at your earliest leisure.

You will have to appoint an agent here to receive the amount of your account. Your power of Attorney should be in duplicate.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed,) Félix Fortier,

Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, &c. &c. &c.,  
St. Hugues, L.C.

True Copy.

Félix Fortier,  
 Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

St. Hugues, 14th August, 1854.

Sir,--I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant. I transmit to you the Certificate of my Oath of Office.

With respect to the appointment of an agent to receive the amount of my account, I shall myself visit Quebec shortly.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed,) T. Brodeur,

Returning Officer.

Félix Fortier, Esquire,  
 Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

True Copy.

Félix Fortier,  
 Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

When the doors were opened, we found MR. J.S. MACDONALD, of Glengarry, on his feet calling upon gentlemen on all sides of the House to lay aside party spirit, and unite in the vindication of the rights and privileges of the House by ejecting at once, and without further discussion, the sitting member for Bagot, (Mr. Brodeur) as they had complete evidence before them that that gentleman had not been duly elected.<sup>1</sup>

MR. J. DORION, of Drummond, then moved that Mr. Brodeur was not duly elected, and that a writ do immediately issue for the election of a member for the County of Bagot.<sup>2</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND had looked into this question since it was last up, and was now convinced that although there was no Canadian statute on the subject yet under the practice of the British Parliament, a returning officer was ineligible, and that the election for the County of Bagot was therefore null and void. (Hear, hear.)<sup>3</sup> He, therefore, consented to the first part of the motion<sup>4</sup>. He thought, however, that a new writ ought not to issue until the expiration of 14 days from the commencement of the session, the time allowed by law for the presentation of election petitions.<sup>5</sup> The present case was not provided for by the Statute, which permitted new elections within fourteen days in certain cases.<sup>6</sup>

MR. A. DORION, (Montreal) said that it must be plain the writ should issue at once, for if Mr. Brodeur was not elected there was no election at all, therefore there must be a new writ immediately.<sup>7</sup>

MR. LORANGER thought, with all deference to the Attorney General East, that the question of the ineligibility of a returning officer was one which at least admitted of doubt, and that it ought to be referred to the Committee on Privileges.<sup>8</sup>

MR. CAMERON agreed with the Attorney General East, that the election for Bagot was null and void, and also that the 14 days should be allowed to expire before a new writ issued, so that the rights of all parties should be respected.<sup>9</sup> The fourteen days were given for parties who might have claims on the seat to petition. Until they expired the House could not know that there was no petitioner for the seat. He cited cases of the same kind in England.<sup>10</sup> He thought that the law allowing any new writ to issue within 14 days from the commencement of the session ought to be repealed. (Hear, hear.)<sup>11</sup>

MR. J. DORION consented to alter his motion so as to meet the views of Mr. Drummond.<sup>12</sup>

(23)

*Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald, and the Question being proposed, That inasmuch as it appears by the Return of the late Election for the County of Bagot now before this House, that Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, was elected to represent the said County of Bagot in the present Parliament, at the late Election which was held under and by virtue of the said Writ of Election, bearing date the twenty-third day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, under the seal of the Province, as addressed to the said Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, as Returning Officer for the said County, that the said Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, having acted as such Returning Officer during the said Election, was disqualified and could not be elected as such Representative at the said Election; and that the said Return be declared null and of none effect; and that the Seat of the Representative for the County of Bagot be declared vacant;*

MR. CAUCHON declared that there was nothing in the law declaring a returning officer inelegible for election to parliament or against his returning himself; that the matter was one of privilege to be settled by the House.<sup>13</sup>

MR. CARTIER combatted some views which had been expressed, in a former discussion on the subject, as to the position of a returning officer. That officer was not the judge, as some held, but only the certifier of the election; his duties were ministerial not judicial.<sup>14</sup>

MR. FELTON contended that Mr. Brodeur was capable of being elected; and that the return was not null and void<sup>15</sup>. [He] hoped the whole question would be referred to the Committee on Privileges at least until the expiration of 14 days.<sup>16</sup>

(23)

*Mr. Felton moved in amendment to the Question, seconded by Mr. Solicitor General Ross, That all the words after "for the said County" to the end of the Question be left out, in order to add the words, "and as there are doubts as to the legality of the Election and Return of the said Timothée Brodeur, as such Representative for the said County of Bagot, all the matter and things touching the said Election and Return be referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, hereafter to be appointed" instead thereof;*

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND begged him to withdraw<sup>17</sup>.

This he [MR. FELTON] refused to do, being quite satisfied Mr. Drummond was wrong.<sup>18</sup>

After some further conversation, MR. BOWES urged the House to vote at once on the question without wasting further valuable time in discussing it.<sup>19</sup>

(24)

*And the Question being put on the Amendment;--It passed in the Negative. Then the main Question being put;*

*Resolved, That inasmuch as it appears by the Return of the late Election for the County of Bagot now before this House, that Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, was elected to represent the said County of Bagot in the present Parliament, at the late Election which was held under and by virtue of the said Writ of Election, bearing date the twenty-third day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, under the seal of the Province, as addressed to the said Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, as Returning Officer for the said County, that the said Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, having acted as such Returning Officer during the said Election, was disqualified and could not be elected as such Representative at the said Election; and that the said Return be declared null and of none effect; and that the Seat of the Representative for the County of Bagot be declared vacant.*

MR. BROWN then asked, as this was a ministerial measure, if the Solicitor General East was about to resign?<sup>20</sup>

MR. J. DORION then moved again that a writ would be issued at once for the County of Bagot. He could not understand the position now taken by the hon. Attorney General East since that gentleman had caused a writ to be issuee (sic) in 1852 for Two Mountains on the death of the member elected before the sitting of the House, and when of course it could not be known, whether the seat was not contested.<sup>21</sup>

MR. CAMERON moved in amendment that the new writ do issue at the expiration of the time allowed by law for the presentation of petitions contesting election returns<sup>22</sup>, raising an obstacle in some possible but unheard of claimant for the seat.<sup>23</sup>

After debate, both motions were withdrawn with the understanding that Mr. Dorion would move for a new writ at the expiration of 14 days.<sup>24</sup>

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*The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--*

*By the Honorable Mr. Morin,--The Petition of the Reverend D. Charland and others, of the Parish of St. Clément.*

*By Mr. Mongenais,--The Petition of François Rouleau and others.*

*By Mr. Lemieux,--The Petition of Joseph Laurin, Esquire, Notary Public, and heretofore Member of Parliament for the County of Lotbinière, residing in the Parish L'Ancienne Lorette, in the County of Quebec.*

*By Mr. Ferres,--The Petition of Hammond Gowen Hall, of the Township of Leeds, County of Megantic.*

*By Mr. Mackenzie,--The Petition of Daniel Anderson, of the Township of South Dumfries, in the East Riding of the County of Brant, Esquire, and others, Electors of the said East Riding of the said County.*

*By Mr. Prévost,--The Petition of the Right Reverend the Bishop of Montreal, and others of the Parish of St. Louis de Terrebonne interested in the College Masson; and the Petition of the Reverend J.T. Théberge and others, of the*



Parish of Terrebonne.

By Mr. Terrill,--The Petition of Nathaniel Jenks, M.D. and others, of the Township of Barnston.

By Mr. Galt,--The Petition of the President and Directors of the City Bank of Montreal; the Petition of C.A.G. de Tonnancour, Coroner of the District of St. Francis; and the Petition of the Municipal Council of the County of Sherbrooke.

By the Honorable Mr. Young,--The Petition of the Reverend G. Werner and others, of the City of Montreal.

By Mr. Cauchon,--The Petition of George Okill Stuart, Esquire, of the City of Quebec, Advocate; and the Petition of the Reverend Antoine Gosselin and others, School Commissioners of the School District of St. Jean, Island of Orleans.

By Mr. Alleyn,--The Petition of John Sharples, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Management of the Congregation of Catholics of Quebec speaking the English Language.

By Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion,--The Petition of La Banque du Peuple; and the Petition of the Montreal and Bytown Railway Company.

By Mr. Solicitor General (sic) Morrison,--The Petition of A.T. McCord and others, members and friends of the Upper Canada Religious Tract and Book Society.

By Mr. Dostaler,--The Petition of L.J. Moll and others, Directors of the Berthier Academy.

By Mr. Jobin,--The Petition of B.H. Leprohon and others, School Commissioners for the Parish of St. Charles de L'Industrie, County of Joliette; and the Petition of M. Crépeau and others, of the Parish of St. Félix de Valois, District of Montreal.

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By the Honorable Mr. Merritt,--The Petition of George Southwick, Esquire, and others.

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:--

Of Iona Division, No. 290; of Aqueduct Division, No. 85; of Cascade Division, No. 155; of Lenox Division, No. 32; of the St. Thomas Division, No. 196; of Spring Bank Division, No. 306; Of Canborough Division, No. 231; of Jarvis Division, No. 132; of Whitby Division, No. 31; and of Richmond Hill Division, No. 83, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; praying for the passing of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Of the Municipality of the Township of Horton; praying for the passing of an Act empowering Municipalities to sell and give titles for Mill privileges belonging to private individuals, whenever such individuals refuse to use or dispose of the same.

Of the Reverend John Cook, D.D., and others, of the City of Quebec; representing the Outrage committed by Rioters on the Congregation attending the Lecture of Father Gavazzi, at Chalmers' Church, on the evening of the sixth June, and the Act which was passed in consequence thereof; and praying that the said Act may be amended, by repealing that part thereof which requires the permission of the Mayor or City Council for Lectures, in order to render the City liable for damages resulting from Riots thereat.

Of the Municipality of the Town of Guelph; praying that the Act incorporating the Galt and Guelph Railway Company may be so amended as to allow Municipalities holding Stock in the said Company to vote thereon.

Of the Hamilton and Toronto Railway Company, and others; praying that the Act incorporating the said Company may be so amended as to authorize them to construct a fixed Bridge across the River Humber, at a certain point.

Of the Bank of Upper Canada; praying for the passing of an Act to increase

the Capital Stock of the said Bank.

Of the Reverend William Ritchie, of the Township of Georgina, and others; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize the lease or sale, for the benefit of the parties concerned, of certain property in the Township of Whitchurch, of which the Petitioner is sole surviving Trustee.

Of the Canadian Institute of Toronto; praying for aid.

Of Robert Brown and others, Landowners in the fourth Concession of the Township of Cornwall; praying for a Survey, in order to establish the Boundary line between the fourth and fifth Concessions of the said Township.

Of Mrs. Mary Fulford and others, Directresses and Lady Managers of the University Lying-in Hospital, Montreal; praying for aid in behalf thereof.

Of George K. Chisholm, Esquire; representing that certain frauds have been practised on the Legislature and on the Country in the formation and operations of the Hamilton and Toronto Railway Company, and praying for an investigation and relief in the premises.

Of William Clarke and others; praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate a Company for the construction of a Railway from Oakville, on Lake Ontario, to the Village of Arthur.

Of Justus W. Williams and others; praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate a Company for the construction of a Railway from Oakville to Milton and Arthur.

Of A. Fortin and others, of the Township of Blanford; praying that the Municipal and Road Laws of Lower Canada may be amended, simplified and consolidated.

Of J.B. Dion and others, of the Township of Blanford; and of Stanislas Picher and others, of the Township of Bulstrode; praying that the United Coun-

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ties of Drummond and Arthabaska may be separated, and each entitled to send a Representative to Parliament.

Of Pierre Bruneau and others, of the Township of Blanford; praying that Jurors in Lower Canada may be paid as are others serving in the Administration of Justice.

Of Joseph Bélanger and others, of the Township of Blanford; praying that those persons who have settled in the Eastern Townships coming under the name of Squatters, may be protected by Law in the rights they have so acquired.

Of Charles Héon and others, of the Township of Blanford; praying that the annual Provincial Grant for Public Education may be increased to One hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

Of A. McNabb and others, of the County of Bruce; praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate a Company to be called the Stratford and Huron Railway Company.

Of E. Duchesnay, Esquire, and others, School Commissioners, and others, of the Parish of Ste. Marie de la Beauce, County of Beauce; praying for aid to establish a College in the said County.

Of the Municipality of the Township of Burford; praying for an Act to settle certain disputes arising out of the incomplete Survey of the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth Concession Lines of the said Township.

Of George Morgan and others, of the Township of March, County of Carleton; praying aid for the construction of a Road from the fourth line of the said Township to Fitzroy Harbour.

MR. CASAULT moved that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery bring up the return of the writ for the election in the County of Saguenay. He stated that he did so because there were 12,000 inhabitants in the county and 14,000 votes, and the poll books showed the grossest fraud in the ... insertion of leaves, which formed no part of the original books, &c.<sup>25</sup>

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*On motion of Mr. Casault, seconded by Mr. Powell,  
Ordered, That the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery do forthwith attend this House, with the Return of the Returning Officer appointed to preside at the late Election of a Member for the County of Saguenay, with the Poll Books, and all other papers, letters and documents transmitted to him with the said Return.*

*The Clerk of the Crown in Chancery attended according to Order, and laid before the House the said Return and Poll Books.*

*Ordered, That the said Return be now read.  
And the same was read accordingly.*

MR. CASAULT then moved, that the sitting member Mr. Huot, be declared unduly returned.<sup>26</sup>

MR. CAMERON ... showed that it was a case requiring a scrutiny and one peculiarly appropriate to the election committee.<sup>27</sup>

MR. CASAULT ... consented to withdraw his motion.<sup>28</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN in moving for the issue of a new writ for the election of a member for the county of Hamilton in place of Sir A. McNab who had accepted office, expressed a hope that the House would consent to answer the speech from the throne immediately so that the business of the session might be proceeded with. He reminded the House that the Governor General's speech had been delivered under the advice of the late administration. He thought it would be proper and constitutional for the House to answer it in an address in the precise terms of the speech, as no amendments that might be made would effect the present administration. He then proceeded to announce that the administration would bring forward the great measures referred to in the speech, in the following order, first, a bill to give effect to the Reciprocity Treaty with the U.S.; 2nd a bill in relation to the Clergy Reserves; 3rd a bill concerning the Seigniorial Tenure; 4th a bill in respect to the introduction of the elective principle into the Legislative Council and 5th a measure in relation to the municipal system of Lower Canada.<sup>29</sup>

MR. CARTIER. How about the tariff?<sup>30</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN replied that a bill in relation to the tariff would also be introduced during the session<sup>31</sup> [and a] School Act Amendment Bill.<sup>32</sup> The administration had abandoned none of the measures alluded to in the speech.<sup>33</sup>

MR. A. DORION, of Montreal, would not oppose the issuing of these writs under the circumstances, but he expressed his concurrence in a remark made by Mr. Cameron that the law in relation to the issuing of writs should be changed. The preamble of the law pointed to one or two cases, but its enactments did not agree with that preamble. No writ ought to issue within 14 days of the commencement of the session.<sup>34</sup>

MR. BROWN concurred in this opinion. He reminded the House of the circumstances under which the present law came into operation. The bill was introduced by the learned member for Frontenac, (Mr. Smith) and was intended to have the very opposite effect that (*sic*) the law now had. But the honorable Provincial Secretary took it up, and cobbled it into the present shape. (Hear hear.) The present law was manifestly unjust. Under its operation Mr. Isaac Buchanan, for instance, who contended for the representation of Hamilton with Sir A. MacNab, at the last election, might be deprived of any claim he might



have to the seat, by the appointment of his opponent, the sitting member, to a seat in the government. He hoped the administration would take up the subject, and modify the law so as to make it more just to all parties.<sup>35</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU disclaimed the paternity of the law referred to. He had only procured the amendment of some of the enactments. He, however, promised that the government would look into the subject.<sup>36</sup>

Mr. Morin's motion was then agreed to.<sup>37</sup>

(26)

*On motion of the Honorable Mr. Morin, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chabot, Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the City of Hamilton, in the room of Sir Allan Napier MacNab, who, since his Election for the said City, hath accepted the Office of President of Committees of the Executive Council of this Province.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the City of Kingston, in the room of the Honorable John Alexander Macdonald, who, since his Election for the said City, hath accepted the Office of Her Majesty's Attorney General for Upper Canada.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Counties of Huron and Bruce, in the room of the Honorable William Cayley, who, since his Election for the said Counties, hath accepted the Office of Inspector General of this Province.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the North Riding of the County of Wentworth, in*

(27)

*the room of Robert Spence, Esquire, who, since his Election for the said Riding, hath accepted the Office of Post Master General of this Province.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the County of Frontenac, in the room of Henry Smith, Junior, Esquire, who, since his Election for the said County, hath accepted the Office of Her Majesty's Solicitor General for Upper Canada.*

*Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Cameron have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Criminal Law of Canada.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday the twenty-fifth instant.*

*Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Cameron have leave to bring in a Bill to compel the attendance of Witnesses upon the Superior Courts in any part of Canada.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.*

On motion of MR. LANGTON<sup>38</sup>,

(27)

*Resolved, That a Select Committee composed of Mr. Langton, the Honorable Mr. Chabot, the Honorable Mr. Young, Mr. Poulin, Mr. Roderick McDonald, and Mr.*

*James Smith, be appointed to confer with Mr. Speaker, and assist him in making arrangements for the better Ventilation of this House.*

*The Order of the day being read, for taking into consideration the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature;*

*The House proceeded accordingly to take the said Speech into consideration.*

MR. LORANGER rose to move the Resolutions for an Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. He spoke in French<sup>39</sup>. M. Loranger ... parla comme suit:

En soumettant au concours de la chambre les résolutions qui forment la réponse au discours du trône, je dois faire précéder le commentaire sur les mesures qu'il énonce de quelques observations sur la position exceptionnelle de la chambre vis-à-vis l'administration; je le ferai aussi succinctement que possible; mais avant tout je dois réclamer l'indulgence de la chambre.

Depuis huit jours que nous sommes en session, un ministère a résigné et un autre cabinet lui a succédé. Cependant la politique du nouveau ministère est la même que celle de son prédécesseur; le programme des mesures est demeuré le même. Je devais proposer la réponse au discours avant la résignation et je la propose après l'avènement du nouveau ministère, parce que ce discours est demeuré le même; parce que l'administration actuelle s'engage à donner au pays les mesures proposées par l'administration qui l'a précédé[e].<sup>40</sup> The country demanded certain great reforms, and these the new Ministry, as well as the old, were disposed to grant. He, for one, would never have consented to support a Ministry upon any other conditions.<sup>41</sup> Je dois avouer que la composition du ministère ne m'a inspiré aucun enthousiasme; mais je l'accepte comme une nécessité politique que nous a faite l'opposition. Je ne dirai pas que l'opposition du côté gauche a été une opposition factieuse; ce n'est pas l'occasion de l'apprécier; mais toujours est-il que la nécessité de coaliser le dernier ministère avec le parti conservateur a été la conséquence de la réunion de ce même parti avec l'extrême gauche du Bas-Canada et des Clear-Grits du Haut, ligués contre le ministère au commencement de la session. La coalition de notre parti avec le parti de sir Allan McNab était la seule possible; et j'y ai vu le seul moyen de faire passer des mesures que le pays entier réclame à grands cris. Après avoir vu le programme renfermé dans le discours du trône, je me suis décidé à soutenir le cabinet d'alors et de donner mon appui cordial à ses mesures; ces mêmes mesures, je les soutiendrai en votant pour le ministère actuel qui les promet; il aura mon appui s'il tient sa promesse; je crois à sa sincérité parce que je pense que l'aveu du parti tory qu'il lui est impossible de lutter plus longtemps contre le torrent de l'opinion publique et que toute opposition aux mesures du parti libéral contenues dans le discours du trône, leur est désormais inutile, ne peut avoir été dicté par le désir de s'emparer du pouvoir, mais qu'il a été la conséquence d'une appréciation courageuse et indépendante de la position et des vœux du pays. Je ne soutiendrais pourtant pas le pouvoir du jour, s'il était uniquement composé d'hommes appartenant au parti conservateur, ou si en se coalisant avec ce parti, le parti libéral eut recherché son alliance; mais tel n'est pas le cas; la section Bas-Canadienne est restée la même. La nouvelle composition ministérielle donne à un des anciens ministres un siège dans le conseil exécutif; et un des chefs du parti libéral dans le Haut-Canada fait partie du nouveau ministère. L'élément conservateur au lieu de former l'élément principal dans la composition de l'administration, est au contraire effacé par l'élément libéral qui le domine<sup>42</sup>. He believed that Sir Allan MacNab and his confreres were sincere in the change they had made. If, however, they were not, he had a guarantee

for reform principles in the fact that there was a reform majority in the Ministry, as in the Upper Canada section of it there were two Reformers whose principles or good faith none could question. Further, a Lower Canadian, he accepted this Ministry because its Lower Canada members were his own men. He believed Sir Allan and his confreres had bravely and boldly abandoned their old principles on the great questions that the country demands. He repeated that he believed they were sincere, and held that their statements ought to be believed. It was a principle of sound sense as well as of law to believe a man innocent until he were proved guilty; and they were not to believe these men rogues until they proved themselves such.<sup>43</sup> En adoptant ces mesures, les conservateurs ont eux-mêmes admis que leur parti ne peut plus exister, et ont joint le nôtre. Ce qui fait la différence entre les partis, c'est la différence de leur politique; un parti qui abandonne sa politique pour adopter une politique étrangère à la sienne, abandonne son drapeau et nécessairement se fond dans le parti dont il accepte les principes. Il en est ainsi du parti conservateur qui s'est fondu dans le parti libéral, et qui a arboré une autre couleur politique en se soumettant à nos mesures.<sup>44</sup> He (Mr. Loranger) was not the man to sacrifice his principles or opinions, and he was not called upon to do so in supporting this Ministry; and in voting for it he should vote in accordance with those reform pledges that he had given his constituents. He would not even do anything to compromise his principles, much less sacrifice them.<sup>45</sup>

Ce n'est pas seulement par rapport à la formation de l'administration que le pays se trouve dans une position nouvelle.

Il est un fait bien important et qui n'a pas manqué d'attirer l'attention de chaque membre de cette chambre.<sup>46</sup> All the parties in the House were of one mind, with only trifling exceptions, on the great reforms that the country desired. Seldom in any country was such a fact witnessed.<sup>47</sup> Tous ont fait le sacrifice de leurs anciennes opinions politiques pour courber la tête devant l'expression de la volonté du peuple du Canada qui réclame les mesures contenues dans le discours du trône. Cette harmonie de tous les partis donne à cette session de notre législature un caractère remarquable et dont l'histoire constitutionnelle du Canada n'a pas encore fourni d'exemple.

L'opposition qui existait récemment dans cette chambre n'avait rien de politique, et le caractère de la lutte qu'elle entretenait a frappé tout le monde. Cette opposition cédait à un mobile unique: c'était l'opposition entée sur les ressentiments personnels, et l'opposition aux hommes, à la place de l'opposition aux mesures qu'elle-même approuve, loin qu'elle veuille les condamner.

Le sujet auquel a rapport le premier des paragraphes de l'adresse, est celui de l'éligibilité du conseil législatif. Cette mesure n'est certainement pas nouvelle, puisque l'assemblée du pays, sous l'ancienne constitution, dut s'en occuper et prétendre à son adoption. Depuis longtemps se fait sentir le besoin de rendre ce conseil électif. On a voulu le maintenir en essayant de l'assimiler théoriquement à celui d'Angleterre, mais la condition de ce conseil en Canada et de ce même conseil en Angleterre n'est assurément pas la même, et il suffit d'y regarder pour s'en convaincre. Comparer l'un à l'autre ces deux conseils, c'est vouloir comparer deux choses qui ne peuvent être comparées ensemble. Il est hors de doute et l'on convient généralement, que le conseil législatif, tel que présentement constitué, contrarie certainement l'exercice des droits populaires.<sup>48</sup> The making of the Legislative Council elective was demanded by the country, and this the new Ministry was disposed to accord. The present Council was indeed an anomaly in our system. It would not do to have one branch of the Legislature progressive and the other pulling back.



This reform had been long demanded by the people, and now they were about to realize it.<sup>49</sup> Longtemps la presse a retenti des réclamations tendant à rendre le conseil législatif électif, et les assemblées parlementaires en ont retenti. Il n'est pas un homme ami des réformes et de son pays qui ne soit convenu que la forme actuelle de ce conseil devait être soumise à l'action populaire. Mais qui a obtenu l'éligibilité de ce conseil? Est-il une voix dans cette chambre pour nous répondre que cette réforme n'est pas due au ministère Hincks-Morin? Avait-on pu ci-devant l'obtenir? C'est une vérité de fait, mais qu'il ne faut pas oublier: le ministère Hincks-Morin tant accusé, ce ministère d'hommes représentés comme des concessionnaires se jouant avec les deniers du peuple, ce ministère corrupteur s'occupait cependant d'une autre manière des intérêts du peuple, puisque c'est à lui, à lui seul que nous somme[s] redevables de cette réforme touchant le conseil législatif.

On dira peut-être: mais, à défaut du ministère Hincks-Morin, un autre ministère aurait pu obtenir la même réforme. Soit: et, en ce cas, ce qui serait un titre à la gratitude en faveur de l'un, l'est aussi bien en faveur de l'autre.<sup>50</sup> He had faith in the expression of the Speech from the Throne in reference to the Legislative Council, and believed the Ministry intended to make it elective. The next great topic alluded to in the Speech was the Clergy Reserves, and on this there were hardly two opinions in the House. The Reserves would be secularized.<sup>51</sup> On sait que la mesure de sécularisation a quelques adversaires dans le Bas-Canada. Mais cette opposition, dois-je le dire, est le résultat d'un préjugé; elle vient de ce que l'on perd de vue la question en assimilant à ces réserves les biens ecclésiastiques du Bas-Canada, bien qu'il n'y ait entre eux aucune espèce de similitude. Si l'on considère les dispositions de l'ancien acte constitutionnel de 1791, on se convaincra de l'erreur dans laquelle tombent ceux qui confondent les dispositions relatives aux réserves du clergé, avec les droits qui consacrent la légitimité des possessions ecclésiastiques dans le Bas-Canada.<sup>52</sup> The ecclesiastical property in Lower Canada, originally granted by the State, the Church was in lawful possession of, while, in the case of the Reserves, there was no real grant, but only a promise of one fettered by conditions. No man could pretend that either legally or morally, the cases were the same.<sup>53</sup> [C'est une] erreur palpable, soit par rapport au caractère différent de ces possessions, soit à cause des inductions que l'on tire d'une similitude imaginaire en elle-même, aussi bien que dans les dernières conséquences que l'on en fait résulter.

Il suffit d'envisager un moment les dissensions longues et si pénibles dont l'existence des réserves a été le prétexte, pour adhérer à une mesure qui doit faire (sic) pour jamais ces dissensions et nous faire faire un pas immense vers le progrès.<sup>54</sup> The agitation that had long taken place on the Reserves question retarded the best industrial interests of the country.<sup>55</sup> La portion de territoire qui forme ce qu'on appelle réserves, est inutile pour le colon: et si l'appropriation n'en a pas été faite, si de fait les réserves n'appartiennent encore à nul autre propriétaire que la Couronne elle-même, qui ne s'en est jamais dessaisie, qui n'en a conféré que l'usage, révoquant à sa volonté (condition à laquelle l'autre partie intéressée a nécessairement souscrit en l'acceptant); si, d'un autre côté, cette possession est une vraie calamité politique et sociale, il n'est que juste que le propriétaire de ce fonds ainsi possédé précairement rentre dans sa propriété lorsqu'il le veut ou en dispose comme il en a le droit; et, relativement à la mesure qui nous occupe, il est également équitable de faire profiter le colon de cette vaste étendue du domaine public, selon le droit et selon la volonté populaire dont ce droit est la sanction.



Je n'ai pas besoin de m'arrêter au mot "sécularisation" employé à l'égard de la mesure dont je parle, car ce mot est impropre, et, s'il donne à entendre que les réserves constitueraient une propriété religieuse, une aliénation ayant un caractère religieux, on se trompe ici et sur la valeur du mot et sur la portée de l'octroi des réserves, qui n'ont jamais eu ce caractère et n'ont jamais été aliénées du domaine public. Aussi, dans la mesure dont il est question, le mot "règlement" a-t-il été substitué à celui de "sécularisation."

On ne ... disconvient pas que le ministère propose deux mesures réellement vitales pour le bien-être et la paix de cette colonie, en voulant s'occuper de la tenure seigneuriale et des réserves du clergé: questions dont l'une est le pendant de l'autre, et questions aussi qui impriment à la législation du pays je ne sais quel caractère d'hésitation et d'inertie.<sup>56</sup> He now came to the Seigniorial Tenure, which was the next question alluded to in the Speech from the Throne. He agreed in the sentiments of the Speech in relation to it. That feudal tenure has long been a stain on the legislation of our country, and it ought to be wiped away.<sup>57</sup>

M. Loranger appuya sur une mesure abolitive de la tenure seigneuriale, sans omettre de dire quelles difficultés éprouverait nécessairement l'adoption finale d'une mesure de cette importance, qui serait adoptée depuis longtemps si on eut pu le faire d'un trait de plume.<sup>58</sup> By that tenure the country was kept in the back ground, and its progress was retarded. It was one of the greatest evils that society had to endure; but it must be remembered that the Seignior had acquired rights as well as the Censitaire, and these must be kept sacred; and he had no doubt that that House would respect them.<sup>59</sup> Les seigneurs ont aussi leurs droits; il ne s'agissait pas de favoriser le peuple au préjudice des seigneurs. Il n'y a pas un collègent (*sic*) électoral canadien où le sentiment naturel de la justice ne prévale au point de lui faire rejeter un candidat qui prétendait procurer l'avantage d'une portion quelconque du peuple au détriment d'une autre, sans [com]pensation. Cette opinion est d'ailleurs un principe, car, si le censitaire souffre, il faut venir au secours du censitaire et faire honneur à son équité en ne foulant pas aux pieds des droits certains que l'on respecte dans tout pays où la civilisation a pénétré.<sup>60</sup> If he did not believe that the Ministry were sincere in their declarations on this question, he would not give them his confidence.

With reference to Reciprocity, he had no doubt there would be no division on that question, and he should not insult the good sense of the House by supposing any; therefore he need not make further allusion to it. With reference to the tariff, he believed that it was of importance that those materials used in ship building should be imported free, and he believed that the House would concur with him in the belief that the tariff needed some modification in the lessening of certain duties, so great was the surplus revenue.<sup>61</sup> Les municipalités, l'importation libre de la matière brute, plus importante qu'on ne parait le croire généralement, et qui est propre à donner une grande impulsion à l'industrie et au commerce; les intérêts relatifs à la construction des vaisseaux, qui constitue déjà pour ce pays un négoce des plus profitables, et prend chaque jour un accroissement rapide; la réciprocité commerciale, la modification du tarif selon les nécessités du commerce, furent autant de sujets que traita habilement M. Loranger à cause de leur rapport avec le document en réponse au discours du trône<sup>62</sup>. Such were the measures recommended in the Speech of his Excellency, and proposed to be carried out by the Administration. They had the heartiest approbation, and he should give the Ministry that proposed to carry them his cordial support.<sup>63</sup>

En terminant, l'orateur fit remarquer sensément le besoin d'un ministère fort pour cette législation en soutenant que ceux qui demandent à hauts cris

pour le peuple une législation réformatrice, doivent, s'il[s] sont conséquents, appuyer un ministère qui la favorise et propose même cette législation; et que le moment actuel serait bien choisi pour accomplir ce ralliement salutaire, puisque ceux qui avaient combattu les réformes se joignent maintenant aux libéraux pour les obtenir, en abdiquant sans retour les prétentions injustes qu'ils mettaient précédemment au service de leur politique fossile.<sup>64</sup>

MR. S. SMITH, membre pour Northumberland seconda la proposition de M. Loranger et fit en anglais un ... discours.<sup>65</sup> [He] discussed the paragraphs of the speech seriatim and at great length. He expressed his gratification that there was at last a prospect of proceeding with the public business, notwithstanding the efforts of those who had conspired together, not to advance the interests of the country, but their own personal ambition and ends. (Cheers.)<sup>66</sup> He ... [reproached] those whom he alleged had caused divisions in the Reform ranks, and caused the breaking up of the last Ministry for the purpose of gratifying their own selfish ambition. Such men cared nothing for the advancing of the business of the country, provided their own ends were promoted. (Here the hon. member read from the Resolutions before the House.)<sup>67</sup> He believed that the "accelerated speed" of the Imperial Parliament "on the course of liberal colonial legislation" was mainly due to the spirited and proper stand taken by the late Inspector General in behalf of the liberties and interests of the people of Canada<sup>68</sup>. He (Mr. Smith) believed that that was more due to the efforts of the late Inspector General in England than to any other person or circumstance. The House and the country owed that hon. gentleman (Mr. Hincks) gratitude for the noble stand that he had taken in England for the assertion of Colonial rights. It was chiefly owing to his letters and speeches that those rights were now respected in the Mother Country.<sup>69</sup> The Imperial Parliament no longer regarded this as an important country, but as a full grown nation. He felt confident that the government, availing themselves on the recent action of the Imperial Parliament, would be prepared to bring forward a measure to change the construction of Legislative Council that would meet the views of all liberal men and greatly improve the machinery for the legislation of the country. There could be no doubt that the opinion of the people of the Province had been expressed at the late election in no equivocal terms in favor of the complete and entire secularization of the Clergy Reserves, (Hear, hear.) and he believed, from the language of the speech, that the government would be prepared with a measure to carry out fully and fairly the opinions of the people thus expressed. (Hear, hear.)<sup>70</sup> He (Mr. S.) was a member of the Church of England, and he loved his Church; but he held that the Reserves ought to be secularized, and he had held the same doctrine for many years. He rejoiced in the declaration of the Governor's Speech that the country had expressed itself in an unequivocal manner in favor of Secularization; and he rejoiced, also, that the hon. members on the Conservative side of the House had seen fit to bow before that expression, and change their opinions. He attached very much importance to that change of opinion by the Conservative members, although he had never doubted that a majority of the House would have carried Secularization.<sup>71</sup> He entered the House with a determination to vote for secularization, if it should be the last vote he ever gave, but he expected that a powerful opposition would have to be encountered in the last struggle<sup>72</sup> and the vigorous protests of hon. gentlemen opposite<sup>73</sup>; but the power of right had prevailed against the opposition which had lasted all his time, and now all parties were in favor of secularization.<sup>74</sup> He contended especially that the adhesion of Sir A. MacNab and his party to reform views would do more to promote a final settlement of the Reserve Question than anything else would have done, because now there

would be no party who could re-open or agitate that question hereafter.<sup>75</sup> Nor could it be denied that those honble. gentlemen possessed great talents; but now we have secured their services to aid us in Secularization, and the result of that will be, that the measure will be regarded with less disfavor in this country and in England than otherwise would have been the case. If a bill had been carried for Secularization by the last Parliament, can any body doubt the loud outcries that we should have heard from the hon. gentlemen opposite against it?--their protests would have been heard from one end of the country to another, and we should never have heard the last of them. And if they had by any means got into power, they would certainly have introduced a bill to unsettle what had been done. Yes, Sir, from the whole phalanx on that side of the House, we should have heard nothing but outcries and protests; but now Secularization will be carried by their own act. He believed the Conservatives, who had joined the Ministry, had made a bold stand. He stood in the same relation to the new Ministry that he did towards the old one. The Conservatives had walked across the House to the Reformers, not the Reformers to the Conservatives.<sup>76</sup> He was willing to believe in the sincerity of those conservatives who had joined the administration and to accept them as true liberals. (Hear, hear.) At all events, those gentlemen must adhere to their present views, for it was impossible for them now to retrace their steps. (Hear, hear.) He was not ashamed to act with those gentlemen<sup>77</sup> in carrying the measures which they had agreed to adopt.<sup>78</sup> He had never given a conservative vote in his life, but he owed his seat in this House, as representative of a conservative constituency, to the votes of conservatives, who felt like Sir A. MacNab, that it was useless longer to resist the secularization of the Reserves. (Hear, hear.) The gentlemen opposite who had seceded from the reform ranks objected to the new administration, not because they believed that the great measures which the country demanded would not be carried out, but because they wanted office themselves and to have an opportunity of carrying those measures themselves. (Hear, hear.) That was the real motive, and the people of Upper Canada would so understand it. (Hear, hear.)<sup>79</sup> The other night, the member for Glengary (Mr. S. Macdonald) had said he would support the measure; but he had complained that the late Inspector General had not, before announcing the measures alluded to in the Royal Speech, attempted to heal the differences in the Liberal party. What did he (Mr. Macdonald) mean by that? Why he plainly showed that he was not prepared to oppose the government on account of their measures, but because he wanted to be taken in; because he wanted to obtain the salary attached to the possession of office. (Hear, hear) That was clearly what the hon. gentleman wanted.<sup>80</sup> He came here prepared to give a cordial support to the late administration, and would have preferred it had they remained in office, but he would accept the secularization of the Clergy Reserves whether it was offered to him by Conservatives or Reformers. His constituents sent him here to support measures not men. If the present administration wavered or showed the slightest insincerity in their support of secularization, they would meet with a violent and determined opposition from him. (Loud cries of hear, hear.)<sup>81</sup> One result of the Conservatives walking over the House was, that one-third of the people of Upper Canada were without the leaders that they had one week ago. Next the speech from the throne referred to the question of the Seigniorial Tenure, and that he believed the country wanted to have settled. He believed that that question to Lower Canada was like the Clergy Reserve question to Upper Canada. He had confidence in the intentions of the Ministry in this respect. Then with reference to the Municipal system, the speech from the throne recommended an assimilation as far as practicable of the system of Lower Canada to



that of Upper Canada.<sup>82</sup> As a holder of considerable property in Upper Canada,<sup>83</sup> he had had much experience of the working of the Municipal system in Upper Canada, and he hesitated not to say that it was the greatest boon ever conferred on the country.<sup>84</sup> It was to those institutions that the prosperity of Upper Canada was in a great measure owing<sup>85</sup>. At first its working was a little difficult as any new system would be, and it created some jealousy, but soon the people began to appreciate it, and now it was everywhere in Upper Canada, regarded as a blessing. He was sure that no greater benefit could be conferred on Lower Canada than giving it the Municipal system of Upper Canada, it might be a little hard to work at first, but people would soon become used to it.<sup>86</sup> It was impossible to do justice to the originator of that system, in Upper Canada.<sup>87</sup> In that connexion he desired to say that no words of his were able to express adequately all the gratitude that was due to the author of the Municipal Loan Fund Act, (Mr. Hincks). It was one of the greatest boons to the country, and stimulated necessary public improvements. He especially desired to congratulate the House and the country on the negotiation of the Reciprocity Treaty<sup>88</sup>. Great credit was due to the exertions of his Excellency the Governor General for having successfully negotiated the Reciprocity treaty. In Upper Canada, the greatest importance was justly attached to that important treaty. Immense quantities of lumber, intended for exportation, were awaiting that alteration of our laws which would bring them into harmony with this treaty. The effect of the measures would be to establish peace, harmony and good will between the two countries.<sup>89</sup> He concurred in the sentiment of the Governor's speech that a modification of the Tariff was desirable. With reference to the new Ministers he would state that he believed them honest. It was a principle of British Law to believe men honest until they were proved to be guilty; and if those Conservatives who had walked across the House were met with invective, opprobrium and scorn for the step they had already taken--ten times greater would be the denunciations that would be heaped upon their heads, should they attempt to break the promises they had made. He heartily seconded the resolutions.<sup>90</sup>

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*Mr. Loranger moved, seconded by Mr. Sidney Smith, and the Question being proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his Speech pronounced from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:*

*That we thank His Excellency for the satisfaction expressed by him at meeting the Legislature, and that we believe, with His Excellency, that the increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has hitherto existed for the due Representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province:*

*To assure His Excellency that we will give our best consideration to the subjects of great magnitude and importance which will necessarily come under our consideration during the Session which is now commencing:*

*That we, in view of the two Acts which the Imperial Parliament, advancing with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed, feel the grave responsibilities thereby imposed on the Canadian Legislature:*

*That as to the one of these Acts which empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council, although the substitution*



of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown in the appointment of Members of that body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience, as Parliamentary Government and Ministerial Responsibility, in the British sense of the term are for the most part unknown to the Constitution of Countries where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers, we think that in order to give to that important Branch of the Legislature the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some change

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in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required; and we trust that the difficulties to which His Excellency has referred will be surmounted by our endeavours, and by the patriotism of the Members of that Honorable Body:

That the other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province, we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able, without difficulty, to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction:

That the condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interest both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada, having to look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighbouring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals:

That we will consider the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions of Lower Canada, in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which since its introduction has contributed so materially to the prosperity of Upper Canada; and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. The other subjects of importance upon which measures may be submitted for our deliberation, will be also attentively considered:

That the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, when laid before us, will receive our best attention, and that His Excellency may rely on our readiness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service:

That our attention will be called to the prosperous condition of the Revenue as affording an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect Raw Materials employed in Ship-building and other branches of manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others, to which Articles entering largely into the consumption of the People are now subject:

That we will be glad to receive Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment

of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's Subjects in British North America on the one hand, and the Citizens of the United States on the other, and we will consider the propriety of amending the Act passed in eighteen hundred and forty-nine, for the free admission into Canada of certain Articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty:

That we learn with satisfaction that the Government and Congress of the United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and that we are disposed to meet them by a corresponding spirit:

That it is our hope that the removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada into the markets of the United States, will have a

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tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province;

And a Debate arising thereupon;

MR. A. DORION, of Montreal, spoke in French,--His opening remarks were not distinctly heard by the Reporter, from his position and some conversation under the desk. He was understood to say that the party to which he belonged separated, some few years ago, from that section of the party now led by Mr. Morin, because it was more Conservative and less Liberal than he or the separatists thought the needs of the country required. They had been met with every species of accusation, for the step they had taken, and had been falsely called Atheists, Socialists, and other names; yet they had drawn their inspiration and their doctrines from the Papineaus, the Vigers, the DeVallieres and the Lafontaines. He contended that Messrs. Morin and Chauveau had abandoned those doctrines and had become Conservative of abuses that demanded reform. He considered that the union that Mr. Morin had made with the Conservatives was quite natural, and he (Mr. Dorion) had long enough expected it; and that expectation was one of the reasons that made him and his party separate from that of the hon. member for Chicoutimi. But if he expected that union to take place, he was not prepared for a proof of it so éclatant as had recently taken place in the House; although, perhaps, that was not a thing to be astonished at, after they had witnessed the strange spectacle of the Attorney-General East, having bent his whole strength, personally, to support the candidature of such a man as Col. Guly, in the East Riding of Missisquoi, and that at a time when his colleague (Mr. Morin) stood in need of his services in his own county; where he was defeated. He (Mr. Dorion) and his party had been vilified and abused for their defection from the party of those gentlemen, by a salaried Press, but what confidence could he have in their sincerity after such a fact as he had mentioned?-- Could they expect that the men that supported the candidature of Col. Guly were sincere in their professions on the Seignioral Tenure question? If there were any sincerity in the professed intentions of the Ministry on that question, they ought to have brought it on, in the last Parliament. They did not bring it on in the last Parliament, before they were forced to do so; nor did he believe they would do so in this if left to themselves.--It had been spread abroad that they (the rouges) intended to abolish religion and property, to destroy churches, and even take away the right of private citizens. It had been said here by Upper Canadian members, who had been led into error by these false statements, that the party to which he belonged were socialists and red republicans. One member had asserted, even in that House, that they were parties who wished to destroy the property of the church in Upper Canada, in order that they might come afterwards to Lower Canada and destroy the property there. There was no truth in that. He was for secularization of the Reserves,

because he thought there were no rights acquired in them--that the property still belonged to the public, and that the public was in favour of treating them in the way proposed. Now, if there were any property in the same position in Lower Canada, he professed his willingness to treat it in precisely the same manner; but before the words of the hon. member for Toronto had any practical meaning, it must be shown that the property of the church in Lower Canada was in the same position. The property of the religious communities in Lower Canada was generally in no danger from the principle, because it in most cases, at any rate, rested on precisely the same basis as any man's private estate. Just so with respect to the seigniorial tenure. His party were as ready as any body of men in the House to respect acquired rights; but while this was true, they demanded the reforms of the abuses incident to that tenure, with the same energy, as they had shown hitherto in combatting those who did not wish to recognize them. If to wish equal rights to all men was socialism, he confessed he was a socialist; for he demanded for all the right to enter into the same race for honours and emoluments, no matter to what race or creed they belonged. He also desired, he confessed, to diminish official patronage, which was the cause of so many great abuses in all departments of the public service. He desired the introduction of the elective principle into the appointments for many local offices now in the gift of the Government, which he was convinced would be the greatest possible benefit alike to the people and the Government itself. If the reports contained in the journals were to be believed, many elections at the late appeal to the people had been carried by the most extraordinary and blameable practices. When the present election law was passed, the party to which he belonged had strongly objected to the making of registrars into returning officers, and late events had shown them to have been right. Everywhere the returning officers had shown a disposition to favour the Government candidates, and thus it happened that in some counties, the number of votes exceeded the number of inhabitants. There could be no surer way to advance the interests of the country, than to make the appointments of magistrates, returning officers, &c., depend upon election by the people. This would at once save the Government from much embarrassment, and give the people the opportunity of offering the places in question to the men they knew to be best fitted for them, and this without the necessity of candidates for such offices subjecting themselves to supplications to the Government. They demand the entire abolition of the system of local patronage which was now so potent as entirely to stifle the popular opinion. As to the address, he regretted that it was not marked by that precision which the House and the people expected; it was too plain that when it was composed, the events which had since taken place were foreseen by its composers, and, in spite of the denegations and indignations of gentlemen opposite, it was plain that the Inspector-General had acted in the spirit in which the speech was written, when he advised his old colleagues to unite under the combination banner. He approved so entirely of the fusion which had been effected that, if he had not counselled His Excellency to send for Sir Allen McNab, it must have been merely because he was not asked. For his (Mr. H's) part, however, he was convinced, that in spite of the hon. gentleman's talent for diplomatic language, if he (Mr. H.) had gone through his own county at the late election, and had told the people that in one month's time he would be found supporting a Conservative Administration under Sir Allan McNab--that the hon. gentleman would not have been in a majority at the polls. The opinion of the constituency would, he was convinced, have been expressed in a totally different manner, had he made at the hustings the speech which he made the other day in the House. It was easy to say that everything was going to be forgotten, and perfect unanim-



ity established--it was easy for the late minister[i]al party to affirm that Sir Allan McNab had given up every old opinion when he begged for their assistance; but he did not doubt, that if gentlemen now absent from the House, on account of the necessity for their re-election, were present they would show that they had still sufficient self-respect to repudiate the humiliating position thus imputed to them by their new colle[a]gues. No doubt they would protest against such statements. If those gentlemen had gone over to the other side of the House, it was not<sup>91</sup> because they had changed their opinions, but<sup>92</sup> because they believed that in concurring in the proposed measures, they ought to modify them so as to render them less obnoxious to their own views. In spite, too, of all that could be said, this first was prominent above the rest--that a great majority of the House had been returned for the purpose of passing the bill to secularize the Reserves. What solid excuse then could possibly be given for choosing the government of Upper Canada from a minority pledged to an entirely different policy. The man who was really consistent in this matter was the hon. member for Montmorenci. He has long preached the alliance between the Upper Canadian Conservatives and the Lower Canadian Ministerialists. The alliance had now been formed; but if the Lower Canadian section of it was to be believed, not upon the principle that [the] hon. member had invoked--since the allies were to do just that to avoid which he had wished for the alliance. What then was the principle which secured to it the assistance of the hon. member? It must be that he preferred men to measures, or how could he support a Ministry, which advocated the same measures he had loudly condemned when proposed by the old one? If this were not the solution, it must be that the hon. member believed the boasted measure would be so changed as to make it more agreeable to him and less agreeable to the Liberal party in Upper and Lower Canada. The hon. member for Toronto had promised a general support to the Ministry, yet he neither wished for the secularization of the Reserves, the elective Legislative Council, nor the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure. The hon. member for Oxford had lately bitterly complained of exactly this kind of support--the support of men who wished to maintain his government intelligently and not blindly. And if the same support were given by the hon. members for Montmorenci and Toronto, it must be in the hope of a change in the character of the measures to be proposed, or perhaps, in the expectation that, like the Seigniorial bill in the last Parliament, they would be killed in the Upper House. If they were right in either of these opinions, the Ministry which then obtained their confidence was unworthy of that of the country. For his own part he looked upon the alliance just as he would do upon the alliance with the Hon. Mr. Badgley or with Mr. Gagy. Both were in favor of the abolition of the Tenure; but Mr. Gagy desired that, at the same time, a certain seignior of Grosbois, and other places of equal sanctity, should receive some 15s. per acre from the censitaires. And, speaking of that gentleman, he must say that it was with indignation that the people of Lower Canada saw him receiving the support of the Hon. Attorney General in the County of Missisquoi; and he asked, seeing such conduct on the part of that gentleman, what confidence the censitaires of Lower Canada could have that the Tenure question would be arranged in a manner agreeable to them. If Messrs. Badgley and Gagy, however, were sitting on the Ministerial benches, he supposed no one would expect a vote of confidence in their government from Lower Canadians--how then could any confidence be placed in those who had united with those gentlemen on every occasion? In the last Parliament the Conservatives in a mass went against the attempt to indemnify the censitaires out of the Public Treasury, for the exactions to which they had been unjustly subjected.

But even the bill introduced last session had been condemned by the country, for the Convention which had met at Montreal had pronounced against every measure which did not go for immediate abolition. The same bill, perhaps, could not be presented again. The Speaker had, last session, pointed out that it did not go far enough. The Administration, however, contended that their plan was much better than his, but the country had not thought so. The convention of the district of Montreal representing two thirds of the seigniorial property, and representing the people who had most suffered from the tenure, all wished for immediate and total abolition.--Sixteen members of that convention now in the House, conclusively proved the unanimity of opinion in that district. The party to which he belonged, also desired, several reforms proper to make the present system of government work more effectively. They required a fixed time for the meeting of parliament, and more frequent elections--annual ones, perhaps, certainly more frequent ones. But they neither desire to carry these or any other changes, otherwise than through the forms of the existing constitution.--They had been accused of desiring to question the constitution; on the contrary, they desired nothing but what the present constitution would give them, and this was not a new idea, since they had never asked for any improvement except what could be gained by this means. They desired the carrying out of the will of the majority by elective institutions worked in good faith, and he saw with pride as a proof of the respect which his party paid to electoral rights that amongst all the petitions against elections now before the House, not one attacked the seat of any political friend. His party, too, were always ready to sustain the construction of railroads and all other ameliorations now so rapidly progressing throughout the country, and there was not one of them, who, in his station, and according to his means, had not helped to promote them, nor had the public credit ever been impaired by any efforts of theirs. On the contrary, they were ready to adopt any measure calculated to put it on a firmer basis. In matters of religion they demanded equal rights and the opportunity of the freest discussion for all, and it was this tendency of theirs which had led to their being some times stigmatized as the destroyers (*sic*) of religion--a calumny to which the best answer might be found in the fact, that the district of Montreal where they were best known, had sent 17 or 18 of them to parliament. He could not conclude without expressing his dislike of the present combination. He and his friends had always repudiated such an alliance, for they knew that all such unions, having no principle for their basis, must be failures, of which the failure of the late ministry after three years of trouble without result was the best proof--three years of trouble which had produced nothing but one session of parliament and a railroad. This one session in three years was all that was accorded, though the constitutional act required, that there should be a session every year. Notwithstanding the ministerial promise, according to which the House ought to have been called together in February, the meeting was delayed till June, and even then, every important measure was delayed, though at public dinners in Upper Canada and elsewhere, they had been promised immediately. There had been no mention on those occasions of difficulties from the representation bill--difficulties which had not been thought of in the preceding session, when these same things had been introduced after that bill had been passed. It was only when all other obstacles were removed, and when the House met prepared to pass all the measures in question, that this excuse was discovered and made the ground of sending members back to their constituents. The result was a lesson for the administration which their conduct merited.--Even now, the House was not elected by the increased number of voters created by the franchise bill, and yet, though it was last session declared that this increase of the electoral body was neces-

sary, it was now proposed to pass these very measures before it had taken place. However, notwithstanding the expressed disapprobation of the people; notwithstanding the loss of the confidence of the House, it was thought consistent with the principles of responsible government that, under pretence of a new ministry, the same men should remain in power. It was no wonder that the popularity which responsible government had once enjoyed should be ruined by such conduct, and that the country should call loudly for a responsibility more direct to the people. To secure this was his object in desiring more frequent Parliaments--the candidates then being elected only for a short time would have no sufficient reason for getting into Parliament at any cost whatever, and Parliamentary elections would become as ordinary and simple affairs as were now the Municipal elections. In conclusion, he denied the analogy sought to be established between the conduct of Peel and Wellington and that of Sir A. McNab. Wellington at the time of Catholic emancipation was in the ministry with a large majority at his back, and he carried the measure by his personal influence to maintain peace between the several classes of the empire; but here the present premier was in a minority and passed over when office was held up to him. He believed the present arrangement could not last. The movement of intelligence and freedom from prejudice which had begun in the District of Montreal would shortly sweep through the Districts of Three Rivers and Quebec, and that united party which was in favor of the principle at once of democracy and equal rights for all classes and creeds, would have a triumphant majority in both Upper and Lower Canada.<sup>93</sup>

MR. MARCHILDON desired that there should be no mistake about it. The Seigniorial Tenure bill of last session would not have given satisfaction. It would have been rejected when it was known, and still more when put into operation; for it would have added to the burthens of the censitaire.<sup>94</sup>

MR. LABELLE, représentant du comté de Laval, en réponse à M. Dorion, de Montréal, dit: Si je me lève dans ce moment, ce n'est pas pour parler sur le mérite de l'adresse, vu que l'hon. membre pour le comté de Laprairie s'est très-bien acquitté de cette tâche. Je ne veux faire que quelques remarques sur ce qu'a dit l'hon. membre pour Montréal, des élections faites par les ministériels. Il dit que nous avons gagné nos élections par la corruption et avec de l'argent. Je regrette d'être obligé de dire que l'hon. membre pour Montréal n'a pas réfléchi avant de proférer cette accusation. Avant de blâmer les autres, il aurait du jeter les yeux sur lui-même et sur plusieurs de ses amis qui ont eu recours aux moyens les plus bas pour se faire élire. Comment l'hon. membre pour l'Assomption a-t-il obtenu son succès? Avec un programme rempli de promessses de toute[s] sortes.

L'hon. membre pour Montréal a dit aussi que les partisans de l'administration ont fait alliance avec les tories. Ne sait-il pas comment les choses se sont passées ici? Ne sait-il pas que c'est le gouverneur-général qui a chargé sir Allan McNab de former une administration et que c'est sir Allan McNab qui est venu à nous? Au reste, est-ce qu'il convient bien à l'hon. membre pour Montréal de nous faire ce reproche?<sup>95</sup> Mr. Dorion and his friends had been allied with the tories for four years, and that gentleman owed his seat to the tories.<sup>96</sup> Qu'il se souvienne donc que c'est lui et son parti qui ont cherché les premiers cette alliance, il y a quatre ans lorsqu'ils voulaient faire élire MM. Papineau et Badgley. Les chefs de son parti à Montréal n'ont-ils pas tous voté pour M. Badgley? Qui, et ils ont été dupés, comme ils le sont aujourd'hui pour l'alliance qu'ils ont voulu faire en entrant dans la chambre. Encore, n'est-ce aux tories de Montréal que l'hon. membre doit son élection? Ce sont donc les rouges qui ont fait les premiers cette alliance, et c'est avec mauvaise foi qu'ils s'en plaignent aujourd'hui.<sup>97</sup> He did not wonder that the hon.



member should desire frequent elections, for as his party was increasing every day throughout the country they must turn to his benefit. (Hear, hear.) Yes, he said so; they were increasing daily because they were composed of active young men (hear); but they were just as active in lying as in anything else. He then accused the rouges ... of having forced Mr. Papineau, their own chief, to return to his chateau. The present ministry was not what he approved of; but it was impossible to get on without government, and therefore he supported it, especially as it promised those measures which had been long demanded.<sup>98</sup>

MR. GALT desired, before the question was put, to make a very few remarks on the position in which the country was not placed. Within the last few days they had witnessed a combination between the Conservatives of Upper Canada and the late administration. He desired to speak of that combination in terms of the deepest regret. He had no reproaches to utter against those gentlemen, who, he believed, had committed a very grave error; but he must express his regret and sympathy for the position in which they had placed themselves. (Hear, hear.) It was impossible for any one who desired to see the country prosper, to look with indifference on the conduct of its public men. It must be a source of regret to all, to see men suddenly deserting the principles for which they had been contending for years in Upper Canada, and to see that course sanctioned and approved of by gentlemen who had long enjoyed the confidence of the country. (Hear, hear.) If such combinations were not rebuked and frowned down, the public virtue of the country would be depraved.<sup>99</sup> (Ironical cries of hear, hear, from the administration benches.)<sup>100</sup> Gentlemen opposite might cry "hear, hear," but they might depend upon it that their conduct would be heard of from one end of the country to the other. (Cheers.) The course of Sir Robert Peel and the Duke of Wellington had been referred to, to sanction the course of Sir Allan MacNab<sup>101</sup>. But instead of Peel's conduct being an excuse it was the strongest argument against what had now been done. Peel's fate showed how destructive such changes were to public morals, and the verdict of his countrymen marked it with disgrace, for he was very shortly left in a small minority, and found that he had sacrificed the respect of all those who had supported him for years.<sup>102</sup> He believed that in the same way, the present coalition would be unequivocally condemned by the people of Canada. (Cheers.) Gentlemen might justify the combination by a reference to the present coalition ministry of England, but he would ask them whether the liberal party in England had received at the hands of that coalition the liberal measures which had been expected? What had been the fate of the Reform Bill? Had not Lord John Russell been obliged to withdraw it? (Hear, hear.) Yes, that and every other liberal measure had been withdrawn, and were it not that England was at that moment engaged in a foreign war, he believed the coalition ministry would not be allowed any longer to hold the seals of office. (Hear, hear.) He had heard this coalition depended (sic) on other grounds. The late Inspector General stated that it was necessary to enable the government of the country to be carried on. He (Mr. Galt) denied that there was anything in the constitution of parties in this House that rendered such a combination necessary, in order to carry out the great measures which the country demanded. What was the result of the last election? Why that four-fifths of the members returned were pledged to support the liberal measures promised by the administration. If that were true, where was the need of calling in the aid of the remaining one-fifth, and placing in their hands the introduction of those measures? (Hear, hear.) So far from having been necessary, the combination was not even justifiable on the ground of expediency.<sup>103</sup> Did not the late minister reorganize his party under the member for London, and did that not show that he thought there was no necessity

for this course? The truth was that so far from this necessity, the present government could not have been formed without the assistance of the Inspector General and his supporters. It was the readiness--the manifest anxiety on the part of the member for Chicoutimi to unite with the late--he could not say present--Conservative party, which effected what without this dereliction of party could never have been brought about. He thought, too, the House ought to consider attentively that part of our constitutional system which allowed such things as this to take place, and which would be impossible if the people had themselves a proper control over their own affairs. He made this remark with the greatest respect for the nobleman at the head of government; but it was his duty to do so. Again, the members of the present government professed to be ready to carry certain great measures; but<sup>104</sup> he asked if Upper Canada reformers had not confidence in the members of the late administration from Upper Canada, and if their want of confidence in that administration did not arise from the fact that they doubted the liberality of some of the members of that administration from Lower Canada? (Cries of no, no, and laughter.) He believed that such was the case. At all events the reformers of Upper Canada had more confidence in the members of the late administration of Upper Canada, than they had in Sir A. MacNab and his party.<sup>105</sup> If these members of the Upper Canada Liberal party, who support these combinations, had confidence in the late ministry on account of the presence in it of the late Inspector General, of the hon. member for Norfolk, of the late Postmaster General, did the absence of these gentlemen from the present combinations increase their confidence in the new government?<sup>106</sup> He would ask the Liberals of the House whether their confidence in the late government would be increased by changing Mr. Cayley for the late Inspector General, the gallant Knight, for the hon. member for Norfolk, or the member for Kingston, for the hon. member Mr. Ross.--Whether they can place greater confidence in Mr. Spence than Mr. Cameron? If these changes then could give no greater confidence, whence would come the greater confidence which it was supposed would be placed in this government than in the last? Here he thought it [h]is duty to say that he had never joined in the personal attacks on the late Inspector General. He knew that many, if not all, the charges against him were unfounded<sup>107</sup>. He ... expressed a conviction that if a fair investigation were accorded him, that gentleman would be able to clear himself completely of all the charges which had been so industriously brought against him by his enemies--charges which he (Mr. Galt) had never believed, and never helped to circulate. (Hear, hear.)<sup>108</sup> He believed that his conduct would be found free, at any rate, from all taint of moral wrong. He believed further that the country was deeply indebted to that gentleman, and that therefore if there had lately been want of confidence in his ministry, it arose<sup>109</sup> not on account of any thing in his conduct, or in that of the hon. member for Norfolk; or the late Postmaster General; but on account of the party in Lower Canada to which they allied themselves.<sup>110</sup> It was believed in Upper Canada that conservative opinions were rife in Lower Canada, and this led to the doubt whether it was really the intention of the late Ministry to secularize the reserves. This doubt, indeed, extended to the highest individual in the Province, and it was not believed that his views were in consonance with those of the people of Upper Canada,--With the present Conservative element in the Cabinet, it became necessary to speak very plainly. If those members of the Cabinet were as was alleged, prepared to carry the principal measures already spoken of, he wanted to know if they were likewise ready to adopt them in all there (sic) details. Whether all doubts which they once entertained about the franchise bill were abandoned, and whether if they had changed their minds about the measures, they had also changed them about the proper time for carrying them.<sup>111</sup>

Yes, yes, from the ministerial benches.<sup>112</sup>

[MR. GALT] was glad to hear that those gentlemen had abandoned all their Conservative principles. But would they continue to pursue a progressive course; or were the measures now proposed, to be regarded as a finality of reform? (Hear, hear.)<sup>113</sup> Again admitting that they were ready for all this, were their principles so entirely changed as to make them continue to act with men who desired to see the government carried on in a progressive spirit, and were not ready for finality? One other subject before he closed,--We were about to have a change in the head of the government, and he thought it most unfortunate that when the new Governor General arrived there should be such an administration as must leave him no doubt as to whom he could rely upon to sustain him by a majority in carrying on the government.<sup>114</sup> In conclusion, he expressed an earnest hope that for the sake of public morality, the House would speedily mark its disapprobation of the combination which had been formed--a combination which could not be justified even upon the ground of expediency, and the tendency of which was to shake the confidence of the people in public men. (Loud cheers.)<sup>115</sup>

MR. FELTON wondered at the extraordinary speech of the hon. member, and especially at his praises of the Inspector General, since he remembered certain comments coming from the hon. member in which the Inspector General had been described as being about to consummate a most atrocious act of robbery. Perhaps some persons might ask the cause of such praise following such censure. As to the combinations,<sup>116</sup> however long the Conservatives had held their opinions it was honorable on their part to change on conviction.--The examples of the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel were cases in point.<sup>117</sup> He ... said that Mr. Galt had misrepresented history in his account of Sir R.'s conduct, since as he alleged ... Peel became more & more progressive during the latter part of his life. The hon. member seemed to forget that it was not the liberals who asked the aid of Sir Allan; but that when that hon. gentleman was called to the Government he had gone to Mr. Morin, and begged his assistance<sup>118</sup>, and he had no doubt that if Sir Allan had sought the assistance of some of the gentlemen on the other side of the house it would have been readily given.<sup>119</sup> It was not for the hon. member for Chicoutimi to refuse without any reason. Had he himself been first sent for, it would have been a question whether he should have applied to the gallant knight or to the hon. member for London; as it was, the question for him was, will you accept, if not, there are plenty who will, some of whom he sent before him. The liberals of Upper Canada might have saved them from the present position,--he used the word saved for he considered it a misfortune, and would have preferred an union with the gentlemen opposite (the rouges.)<sup>120</sup> As to the amount of assistance which the new cabinet would obtain, it would depend entirely upon the fidelity with which they carried out the measures to which they were pledged. If they showed any hesitation in carrying out these measures, not only would the liberal members of Upper Canada desert them, but every member for Lower Canada also. The hon. member for the town of Sherbrooke had lauded the late Inspector General as a benefactor of his country and he (Mr. F.) agreed with him; but how was it that he (Mr. Galt) choose (sic) this moment to desert a man, the purity of whose private life he defends and whom he describes as a benefactor of his country? Hon. gentlemen treated the question as a scramble for office. He (Mr. F.) for one did not care who held office; and a large portion of the public held the same view. They wanted measures; they wanted to have the public business done and they did not care who did it. If the gentlemen opposite were prepared to carry on an opposition in an improper spirit and by improper means they would find the



sense of the country against them.<sup>121</sup> As to the franchise bill, it could not be carried out for two or three years, and the only wrong the government had done was in assuming that it could be speedily brought into operation. Nay, conclusions drawn from what conservative gentlemen had once said were out of place, because that was when those gentlemen were in opposition to the liberals, and of course, the circumstances were now entirely changed. It could no longer be doubted that they were ready to abandon all their old opinions, and adopt an entirely new policy. Their assent to the measures now proposed was the best test of their entire change of principles.<sup>122</sup>

MR. BELLINGHAM said the liberal party had first deserted their leaders, in the hour of need, and then assailed them.<sup>123</sup> [He] compared the Upper Canadian Conservatives (*sic*) to the Russian soldiers, who were said to have shot their Generals, and expressed the belief that here, as in the States, it would shortly happen that no man of talent and character would serve the public, since he would thus become at once the mark for opprobrium. He conceived that in the present warlike crisis, the effect of which might extend to Canada, an union of parties was most desirable.<sup>124</sup> The present fusion had been produced by the magnitude of the interests awaiting settlement. The talent of the leaders of both parties was required to carry these measures. The country was deeply indebted to the late Inspector General for his successful exertions in raising the credit of the country<sup>125</sup>. He had been of the very highest service to the country, and there was not a working man in it, who did not wear a better coat and eat a better dinner for his exertions and skill.<sup>126</sup> He had no doubt that the vague charges against him, when investigated, would be found to have no foundation.<sup>127</sup> As to the question before the House, he disapproved of the Reciprocity bill, and thought we ought instead to put an export duty on timber<sup>128</sup>. He (Mr. B.) thought a federation of the British Provinces, including the West India Islands, should precede legislation on every other question, even the reconstruction of the Legislative Council.<sup>129</sup> Mr. Bellingham ... proceeded to deliver a lengthy address in favor of the formation of a confederation including not only the British North American Colonies but all the West India Islands.<sup>130</sup> This federation would possess a variety of climate such as would produce everything we want, except cotton and tea.<sup>131</sup> He advocated this scheme as the only mode in which the annexation of these provinces to the neighboring republic could be prevented and an honorable and friendly alliance with Great Britain maintained.<sup>132</sup> As a British subject, he would infinitely prefer a distinct nationality under the protection of Great Britain, to annexation to the United States. The youth of this country felt, and there was no use in disguising the fact, that we were fast approaching a position of independence. On the subject of the Clergy Reserves he differed entirely from the mover of the address, who had said that the church property of Lower Canada rests on a different foundation. Some of the journals, in Upper Canada, had admitted that the Secularization of the Reserves was only preliminary to an attack on all church property.<sup>133</sup> [He] was opposed to the secularization of the Reserves, and believed that the Church property in Upper Canada was on precisely the same footing as that in Lower Canada; but, though he belonged to the Church of England, condemned the present system by which the Reserve fund was doled out through a Society in England, and by which all dignitaries of the Church were brought from abroad. He supported the combination.<sup>134</sup>

(29)

*On motion of Mr. Gamble, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Cameron, Ordered, That the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.*

*Then, on motion of Mr. Gamble, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Cameron, The House adjourned.*<sup>135</sup>

## APPENDIX: 13 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO INCORPORATE ST. FRANCIS COLLEGE.]

MR. FELTON [gave notice that] on Tuesday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate certain persons therein named, and others, under the name of "The St. Francis College."<sup>136</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO INCREASE CAPITAL STOCK OF MONTREAL CITY BANK.]

MR. GALT [gave notice that] on Tuesday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to amend the charter and to increase the capital Stock of the City Bank of Montreal.<sup>137</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO AMEND LOWER CANADA WINTER ROADS LAW.]

MR. DARCHE [donne avis que] lundi prochain [il demandera la permission de présenter un] Bill pour abroger certaines parties des ordonnances relatives aux chemins d'hiver dans le Bas-Canada, en ce qui regarde le district de Montréal.<sup>138</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: SALE OF SHEDS AT POINTE ST. CHARLES.]

MR. DEWITT [donne avis que] lundi prochain [il fera motion pour une] Adresse pour savoir en vertu de quelle autorité les sheds à la Pointe St. Charles, à Montréal, ont été vendus, les noms des acheteurs, le produit de la vente, quand et à qui le paiement a été fait, pourquoi ils ont été vendus aux acquéreurs comme ils l'ont été, et non en lots comme c'était annoncé dans les journaux;--aussi vu que les frais de construction de ces sheds ont en partie été payés au moyen de la taxe des émigrés, pourquoi le produit de la vente n'a pas été employé de quelque autre manière pour le soulagement des étrangers indigents qui pourraient avoir l'occasion de séjourner quelques semaines à Montréal, afin d'empêcher par ce moyen les maladies de se propager dans le pays.<sup>139</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: SEIGNIORY OF BEAUHARNOIS.]

MR. BUREAU [donne avis que] vendredi prochain [il fera motion pour une] Adresse pour copies de tous les papiers, requêtes, lettres et correspondances relatifs à un terrain en litige entre les habitants de Russeltown et de St. Jean Chrysostôme et le seigneur de la seigneurie de Beauharnois, ainsi que copies des titres de concession et de commutation de cette seigneurie.<sup>140</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: RUMORS OF ADJOURNMENT.]

MR. J.S. MACDONALD (de Glengarry) [donne avis que] vendredi prochain [il] demandera au ministère si c'est son intention de procéder immédiatement aux affaires publiques du pays, ou si la rumeur d'un ajournement de quelques semaines est fondée.<sup>141</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: FUND FOR SCHOOLHOUSES IN LOWER CANADA.]

MR. JOBIN [donne avis que] vendredi prochain [il] demandera aux (sic) ministère si c'est l'intention du gouvernement d'accorder un fonds pour aider à la construction de maisons d'école dans le Bas-Canada, le fonds voté ci-devant étant épuisé; et attendu que des maisons d'école ont été bâties par des commissaires d'école étant sous l'impression qu'il y avait une balance de deniers entre les mains de M. le surintendant d'éducation pour le Bas-Canada, et qu'une telle balance n'existant pas, les intérêts pécuniaires de plusieurs personnes sont gravement compromis.<sup>142</sup>

## [DISCUSSION RE: ST. FRANCIS BANK AT STANSTEAD.]

After some discussion on a motion of MR. TERRILL, to dispense with the rules of the House, to permit the introduction of a bill for the establishment of a Branch Bank at Stanstead, the petition praying for it, was referred to the Committee on Standing Orders.<sup>143</sup>



## FOOTNOTES: 13 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
2. IBID.
3. IBID.
4. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 14 September 1854).
5. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
6. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 14 September 1854).
7. IBID.
8. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
9. IBID.
10. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 14 September 1854).
11. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
12. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 14 September 1854).
13. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
14. IBID.
15. IBID.
16. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
17. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 14 September 1854).
18. IBID.
19. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
20. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 14 September 1854).
21. IBID.
22. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
23. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
24. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
25. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
26. IBID.
27. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
28. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
29. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
30. IBID.
31. IBID.
32. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
33. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
34. IBID.
35. IBID.
36. IBID.
37. IBID.
38. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854, noted this proceeding, remarking in parentheses that the ventilation "is horribly and poisonously bad."
39. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
40. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
41. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
42. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
43. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
44. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
45. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
46. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
47. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
48. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
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62. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
63. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
64. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
65. IBID.
66. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
67. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
68. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
69. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
70. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
71. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
72. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
73. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
74. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
75. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
76. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
77. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
78. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
79. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
80. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
81. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
82. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
83. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
84. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
85. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
86. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
87. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
88. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
89. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
90. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
91. IBID.
92. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
93. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
94. IBID.
95. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
96. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
97. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
98. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
99. GLOBE, 19 September 1854. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854, has, "If the people of Upper Canada did not lift up their voice against such a combination, it must be because all public virtue was at an end."
100. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
101. IBID.
102. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.

103. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
104. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
105. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
106. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
107. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
108. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
109. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
110. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
111. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
112. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
113. IBID.
114. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
115. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
116. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
117. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
118. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
119. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
120. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
121. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
122. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.
123. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
124. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
125. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
126. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
127. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
128. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
129. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
130. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
131. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
132. GLOBE, 19 September 1854.
133. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854.
134. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
135. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 23 September 1854, reported that the debate was adjourned at twenty to twelve. MORNING CHRONICLE, 14 September 1854, reported that the House adjourned at midnight. GLOBE, 19 September 1854, reported that "the House ... adjourned until 7 o'clock to-morrow evening."
136. SHERBROOKE GAZETTE, 26 September 1854.
137. IBID.
138. LE PAYS, 16 September 1854.
139. IBID.
140. IBID.
141. IBID.
142. IBID.
143. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854.





THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 1854.<sup>1</sup>

(29)

THE following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Jobin,--The Petition of the Corporation of St. Viateur; and the Petition of the Reverend L.J. Guyon and others, of the Parish of Ste. Elizabeth, County of Joliette.

By Mr. Terrill,--The Petition of Hugh Elder and others, Sons of Temperance, and others.

By Mr. Jean Baptiste Daoust,--The Petition of Stephen Mackay and others, of St. Eustache.

By Mr. Bourassa,--The Petition of Pierre Colin and others.

By Mr. Larwill,--The Petition of William Boylan and others, of Dawn, Euphemia and the Gore of Camiden.

By Mr. Cauchon,--The Petition of George Okill Stuart, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, Advocate, George Honoré Simard, of the same place, Esquire, Merchant, and Hypolite Dubord, of the same place, Esquire, Merchant.

A long discussion took place on the introduction by Mr. Felton, of a bill "to constitute the Electoral County of Sherbrooke into a separate municipality, and to establish a registry office therein." It was contended that the bill was a private one, and required notice to the Gazette, and also that it could not be brought in on the mere motion of a member, without the previous introduction of a petition asking its enactment.<sup>2</sup>

MR. SICOTTE the SPEAKER decided that the bill was a public one, and it was read a first time.<sup>3</sup>

(29)

Ordered, That Mr. Felton have leave to bring in a Bill to constitute the Electoral County of Sherbrooke into a separate Municipality, and to establish a Registry Office therein.

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND hoped the gentleman would not press the bill now, as it was the intention of the Government to bring in a general bill in regard to the electoral counties, making them also counties or unified counties for municipal purposes.<sup>4</sup>

MR. FELTON did not intend to press the bill now. He moved that it be read a second time this day three weeks. Agreed to.<sup>5</sup>

(29)

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday the fifth day of October next.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie, seconded by Mr. DeWitt,

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before this House, an Account in detail, of all monies in the hands of the Crown Land Commissioner, or the Clerks of the Crown Land Office, on account of deposits for claims; also, copy of the Tariff of Fees in use in that Office, the authority for each charge, the amount received during the last twelve months, and by whom.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying His Excellency for a Return shewing the various Roads, Harbours, Bridges, and Welland and St. Lawrence Canal Lots, or other property, sold to Companies or individuals by the Government, the amount they sold for, the sums severally paid in, the amount due on each transaction, including

interest, except so far as the information required may have been placed in the Public Accounts, or be already before the House, and in any such case referring to the Public document where the information is contained: as also,

(30)

that copies of the several Reports or Returns ordered by law to be made to the Governor General, for the information of the Legislature, may be laid before the House, including the Montreal Fire Loan, Toronto Harbour Commissioners, Receiver General, Penitentiary, Geological Survey, Superintendent of Schools, Upper Canada Grammar Schools, (exclusive of Meteorological Reports,) Lunatic Asylums, Supervisor of Cullers at Quebec, Montreal Harbour Commissioners, Seminary of St. Sulpice, Grey Nuns, (Montreal,) Pères Oblats, Hotel-Dieu, (Montreal,) Toronto Orphans' Home, Toronto House of Industry, Hamilton Orphan Asylum, Wesleyan Methodist Connexional Society, Trinity College, McGill College, Canadian Loan Company, the Banks enumerated in the List compiled under the Standing Order of 25th August, 1852, Canada Guarantee Company, Canadian Steam Navigation Company, Grand Division of Sons of Temperance, Canada West, and Cap Rouge Dock Company.

The reading of the latter motion by the hon. gentleman was but imperfectly heard, and many members called out, "louder, louder," amidst great laughter.<sup>6</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE knew of no role that required him to roar. (A laugh.) He was nursing his voice, as he should probably want it before long. (Hear, hear.)<sup>7</sup>

MR. CARTIER remarked jocularly that as the honorable member for Haldimand had now assumed a very responsible position as the leader of the opposition, members ought to have an opportunity of hearing and weighing every word that fell from his lips. (Laughter.)<sup>8</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE denied that he was either the leader or the fag end of the opposition, but a member who had been five times expelled, upon the motion of the honorable and gallant knight who lately occupied this seat, (hear, hear,) and when that gentleman vacated the seat to try and mend his fortunes as Prime Minister, he (Mr. M.) being a little deaf, and the oldest member of the House, but one, crossed over and took the vacant seat, because it was near the Speaker. He had done the hon. and gallant knight many favors in past time, and had been the cause of conferring knighthood on him. (Hear, and laughter.) It was not claiming much in return when he only took a seat that had been vacated by Sir Allan.<sup>9</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND remarked that Sir Allan McNab was probably far more anxious at the period referred to, to promote the elevation of the member for Haldimand than that gentleman was to advance him. (Much laughter.)<sup>10</sup>

Mr. Mackenzie's motion was agreed to.<sup>11</sup>

(30)

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that a Return may be made to this House, shewing the Sales of real estate, water privileges, and timber, on the Seigniorship of Lauzon, during the last twelve months ending the last fiscal year; said Return to contain a copy of any Orders in Council, and directions by the Crown Land Commissioner, to sell a certain property called the Domain Farm, near Point Lévi, with a copy of the advertisements sent to the Newspapers relative to said Point Lévi sale, and stating the number of acres sold, the names of purchasers, the sums agreed to be paid, the sums due, and the sums that have been paid on the said purchases; also, any Correspondence had with any Department of the Executive Gov-



ernment relating to and connected with the said sale and purchase; such Return further to contain a detailed statement of the rents, profits, salaries, revenue and expenditure of the said Seignior of Lauzon, since the last Return.

MR. MACKENZIE said that his object in asking for this return was to obtain reliable information in regard to a transaction respecting which some members of the late Government had been much censured. He had no doubt that the new Administration would be quite willing to give the House the fullest information on the subject.<sup>12</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN said there could be no objection to giving all the information asked for.<sup>13</sup>

(30)

*Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before this House, for its information, a copy of any Lease or Patent leasing certain landed property at or near the Rondeau, including fishing grounds, to John Prince, Esquire, Queen's Counsel, and of the Orders in Council authorizing said Lease, the Petition, if any, and any Correspondence on file in the Executive Council Office, or Crown Land Department, relative to the same.

MR. MACKENZIE remarked that he was much surprised to learn valuable public property had been let or sold to Col. Prince for a mere song. That explained his extraordinary conduct in the House.<sup>14</sup>

(30)

*Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before this House, at as early a period of the Session as possible, a Return, under the usual heads of the Revenue and Expenditure, of the Gross Revenue of Canada, and amount of payments therefrom during the six months of the fiscal year ending 31st July last, including the Post Office Department; also, the amount of Cash at the credit of the Government in the Banks and other monied institutions of Canada, or elsewhere, or lent to individuals, or on deposit with them, at as recent a date as may be in the power of the Inspector and Receiver General's Departments to supply; and also, a Statement of the whole Public Debt at this time, including all sums for which the Province is security, shewing the interest now due by Railway or other incorporated Companies, if any, and unpaid; shewing also the condition of the Consolidated Municipal Loan Fund of Upper Canada, and the gross income of the Clergy Reserves in Upper and Lower Canada, for the six months since the period to which the Public Accounts for 1853 are made up.

*Ordered*, That the said Addresses be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.

MR. MACKENZIE further moved for a return of all election records. He did so, because he had heard of some extraordinary voting--as for instance in one county he was told the votes polled exceeded the whole population, and that was immoral.<sup>15</sup>

A debate ensued on this motion, MR. CAUCHON and other members taxing the hon. member for Haldimand with putting the country to great expense for the preparation and printing of voluminous return[s], which were of no practical use to any one, and which no one had the courage even to attempt to read.<sup>16</sup>

(30)

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie, seconded by Mr. DeWitt,  
*Ordered*, That the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery do prepare a Return to  
 this House, from the Records of the last Election, shewing the number of Votes

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polled in each County, Riding, Township, Parish, City, Town, or Division, for  
 each Candidate, with the total number polled in each County, Riding, Township,  
 Parish, City, Town, or other Division, placing also the total Population of  
 each of the said Divisions and sub-divisions opposite or beside the said totals  
 of Votes, and naming the several Returning Officers, and their several offices,  
 as Sheriff, Town-Clerk, Registrar, or other designation.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie, seconded by Mr. DeWitt,

*Ordered*, That the Clerk of this House do notify all Public Officers, Com-  
 missioners or Corporations, whose duty it is to prepare any Reports or periodi-  
 cal Statements to the Legislative Assembly, to transmit them to this House at  
 the earliest possible period; the said order to include all Incorporated Banks,  
 Loan Companies, Savings Banks and Insurance Companies, the Post Master General's  
 Report for 1853, Minister of Agriculture, Provincial Secretary, Provincial Reg-  
 istrar, Civil List, Public Lands, Osgoode Hall, Lunatic Asylum, Rebellion Losses,  
 Public Health, Emigration, Main Trunk Railway Company, Public Works, Toronto  
Public Buildings, including the Government House for which a supply was voted  
 about three years since, Distribution of Statutes, Superintendent of Education,  
University of Toronto, Registrars of Counties, Montreal and Quebec Trinity  
Houses; also the Religious and Philanthropic Educational and Literary and  
 Scientific Incorporations named in the list of Sessional Returns prepared  
 June, 1854, under the Standing Order of the 25th August, 1852, Manufacturing  
 and other Commercial Companies, Harbour Companies, Road Companies, and Railway  
 Companies, as per said List, and the Grand River Navigation Company, the Beverley  
Navigation Company, the Desjardins Canal Company, and the Quebec and Trois Pis-  
toles Navigation Company.

MR. MACKENZIE then moved--that the Clerk be instructed to obtain from the  
 Managers of each of the Chartered Banks in Canada, a statement showing the names  
 of every Shareholder in such Bank, the amount of stock the Shareholders several-  
 ly hold, distinguishing, where it is possible, new stock granted under Statutes  
 passed in the two last Parliaments, and showing the premium, if any, payable or  
 paid thereon by purchasers.<sup>17</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN thought the demand for the names of shareholders  
 quite unprecedented. The House, he thought, should only ask how many share-  
 holders there were, and what was the largest amount of stock held by any one  
 individual.<sup>18</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE persisted in the motion. He held they had the right to ask  
 for any information from companies to whom they granted charters.<sup>19</sup> The hon.  
 gentleman would find upon the journals of the House long lists of shareholders  
 of such corporations. When these corporations came here seeking large additional  
 powers, the House had certainly a right to ask such questions as would enable  
 them to see the justice or injustice of the proposed course.<sup>20</sup>

MR. CAMERON thought the information asked for was of a most extraordinary  
 character and trusted the House would not grant it. The next information de-  
 manded he supposed would be the amount of every shareholder's accounts, the  
 number of notes discounted for each and so forth. The House would be asking  
 for information which it had no right to enforce. The statute pointed out the

sort of information the House was entitled to receive and the House could not ask for any other information.<sup>21</sup>

MR. MERRITT said that if the banks refused the information asked for, the House had only to withhold the additional privileges sought. He thought, however, that that part of the motion of the hon. gentleman for Haldimand, which related to the premiums paid by purchasers was unnecessary, as all that information was to be found in the newspapers of the day.<sup>22</sup>

MR. GAMBLE hoped the House would not place itself in the position of asking information in reference to the private affairs, not only of the institutions, but of individuals who held stock in those institutions.<sup>23</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE said he would leave out of his motion the word premium, and had no objection to postpone his motion to allow a little time for members to reflect.<sup>24</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND contended that it would be mere impertinence for the House to ask the Banks for the names of all their stockholders, but if the hon. member desired to have the names of members of Parliament who held stock in any particular bank or banks, he should have no objection.<sup>25</sup>

MR. FERRES contended it should be shewn that some evil had arisen from the names of stockholders in banks not being made public before the House granting such a motion. He did not think that under our system of banking it was necessary that the names of stockholders could be made public, as they were only responsible for double the amount of their stock. Under the Scotch system of banking the case was different<sup>26</sup>.

After some further conversational discussion, MR. MACKENZIE withdrew his motion for the present.<sup>27</sup>

(31)

*Ordered, That Mr. Felton have leave to bring in a Bill to amend and consolidate the Laws in relation to the Crimes of Forgery and False Personation.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday the fifth day of October next.*

On motion of MR. FELTON,<sup>28</sup>

(31)

*Resolved, That a Select Committee, composed of Mr. Felton, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Jean Baptiste Daoust, Mr. Egan, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Valois, Mr. Laporte, Mr. Turcotte, Mr. Somerville, Mr. Terrill, and Mr. Taché, be appointed to enquire into the state of Agriculture in Lower Canada, and the best means of improving the practice thereof, and of advancing the interests of those engaged in that occupation, to report thereon with all convenient speed; with power to send for persons, papers, and records.*

*On motion of Mr. Cauchon, seconded by Mr. Polette,*

*Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before this House, copies of the several appointments of Jean Blanchet, Esquire, M.P.P., as one of the Visiting Physicians of the Quebec Marine Hospital, and, also, a detailed Statement, certified by the proper Officer, shewing the several sums of money received by the said Jean Blanchet, Esquire, as such Visiting Physician, with the date of each payment.*

*Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor*



General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.

(32)

The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate upon the Question which was yesterday proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his Speech pronounced from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:

That we thank His Excellency for the satisfaction expressed by him at meeting the Legislature, and that we believe, with His Excellency, that the increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has hitherto existed for the due Representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province:

To assure His Excellency that we will give our best consideration to the subjects of great magnitude and importance which will necessarily come under our consideration during the Session which is now commencing:

That we, in view of the two Acts which the Imperial Parliament, advancing with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed, feel the grave responsibilities thereby imposed on the Canadian Legislature:

That as to the one of these Acts which empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council, although the substitution of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown in the appointment of Members of that body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience, as Parliamentary Government and Ministerial Responsibility in the British sense of the term are for the most part unknown to the Constitution of Countries where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers, we think that in order to give to that important Branch of the Legislature the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some change in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required; and we trust that the difficulties to which His Excellency has referred will be surmounted by our endeavours, and by the patriotism of the Members of that Honorable Body:

That the other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province, we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion expressed upon it in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able, without difficulty, to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction:

That the condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interest both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada, having to look to the justice and moderation

of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighbouring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals:

That we will consider the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions of Lower Canada, in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which since its introduction has contributed so materially to the prosperity

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of Upper Canada; and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. The other subjects if importance upon which measures may be submitted for our deliberation, will be also attentively considered:

That the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, when laid before us, will receive our best attention, and that His Excellency may rely on our readiness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service:

That our attention will be called to the prosperous condition of the Revenue as affording an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect Raw Materials employed in Ship-building and other branches of manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others, to which Articles entering largely into the consumption of the People are now subject:

That we will be glad to receive Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's Subjects in British North America on the one hand, and the Citizens of the United States on the other, and we will consider the propriety of amending the Act passed in eighteen hundred and forty-nine, for the free admission into Canada of certain Articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty:

That we learn with satisfaction that the Government and Congress of the United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and that we are disposed to meet them by a corresponding spirit:

That it is our hope that the removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada into the markets of the United States, will have a tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province;

And the Question being again proposed:--The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.<sup>29</sup>

DR. ROLPH addressed the House at some length. The hon. gentleman was throughout imperfectly heard in the reporter's gallery, and was at times quite inaudible. He commenced by saying, that he could not take his seat on that (the opposition side of the House) without endeavoring to explain how, and why, instead of having the pleasure of supporting a new reform government, he was compelled to take his seat there to oppose one that was a mixture of all sorts<sup>30</sup>--an union which must destroy all that ought to be cherished; seeing it consisted of discordant elements that could cohere for no valuable purpose<sup>31</sup>, and necessarily of discordant principles, if they could be called principles. The hon. member for West Northumberland (Mr. Smith), who had been selected by the government to second the address, had, instead of taking a statesmanlike view of the whole question indulged throughout his speech in ungenerous and uncalled for attacks upon honorable gentlemen on his (Dr. R's) side of the House, imputing to them selfish and improper motives, and an inordinate ambition to sit on the treasury benches.<sup>32</sup> If it were so, that any hon. member entertained views like those imputed to him,<sup>33</sup> the gentleman should have



remembered that there was nothing dishonorable in aspiring to a place on the treasury benches,<sup>34</sup> and that ambition only ceased to be laudable when it led men to abandon principle, to desert their party, forsake their own views, or forget the pledges of a long life<sup>35</sup> of political consistency. (Hear, hear)<sup>36</sup> and the consistency they owed to their own characters, and this instead of increasing, destroyed their fame.<sup>37</sup> Were they to be told by the gentleman who was the organ of the absent premier, that gentlemen on that side of the House should not, as Canadians aspire to take a part in the government of their country, and if they did so in the honorable manner in which they had conducted themselves on this trying occasion, were improper motives to be imputed to them? In their name he (Dr. R.) indignantly repelled those imputations. (Hear hear.)<sup>38</sup> Ought not that gentleman to have remembered while throwing missiles at that side of the House,<sup>39</sup> that he was himself open to ungenerous insinuations, if those whom he had assailed could condescend to such a mode of warfare. (Hear hear.) Had there been no ambition on his part to seek at the hands of a generous constituency the seat he occupied in this House? Had there been no ambition on his part to be selected by the new coalition government, as the eloquent expounder<sup>40</sup>. He had already proved himself to be of the views of the coalition<sup>41</sup>--to vindicate them with respect to the Speech which they did not make, but adopted. (Hear, hear.) The honorable gentleman doubtless knew very well that that was not only a very high honor, but that it was the first step to preferment. (Hear hear.) He (Mr. Smith) knew very well that Mr. Spence moved the government candidate for Speaker and that Mr. Spence was now Postmaster General. (Hear, hear.)<sup>42</sup> It was said that the Chaplain of a Bishop was pretty sure of preferment, and<sup>43</sup> he (Dr. R.) should have no objection to the gentleman's preferment, but he trusted that hereafter he would abstain from imputing base and improper motives to those of his fellow reformers whose moral sensibilities and ideas of political morality forbade them to support the new amalgamation ministry.<sup>44</sup> He should remember that if there are some persons who cannot regard events like those we are considering in the same unscrupulous manner as others, that this difference of moral sensibility affords no ground for aspersion such as he has cast. He should remember that the gentleman whose cause he has espoused may yet require his defence. Had his (Dr. R.) friend no right to ask how it was that they who had placed this duty in the hands of the honorable member for Northumberland, had so changed the opinions of their whole lives, and yet who, perhaps, would not like to be told that by this conduct they had committed an offence which, in all countries possessing constitutional government, was regarded with equal jealousy. He ... [well] remember[ed], on a late occasion, meeting one of his constituents who said to him, "I have opposed you in this very county, but I have changed my opinion, and now for ten years have constantly acted with the Reformers. Some of my neighbors," he added, "accuse me of turning my coat, but I say I have not turned it, but have worn it out, and got a new kind of coat." He had put on the coat of office, and instead of working ten years in the ranks like the friend he had mentioned, had taken rank at once. Had not the late ministry been charged, for months, with a violation of pledges? Was there a newspaper in the country which had not aided in disseminating these charges? and what is now to be said of men who broke every pledge of their lives? In a court of Justice the poorest man was he who was entitled to the most assistance, and the minority of a Legislature was, in the same way, entitled to indulgence from those who sustained the majority, and [he asked] if he would be, as an advocate, esteemed worthy the respect of any honest man if he deserted the cause of a client, who, from age or any other circumstance, was peculiarly helpless. He asked if those did not commit a similar offence



who, coming to the House charged with the maintenance of certain principles, had crossed the floor, and so left their principles undefended and their constituents unrepresented?<sup>45</sup> He might ask that gentleman whether those in whose behalf he had spoken were not liable to imputations for the course they had pursued--for having changed the opinions of their whole lives? (Hear hear.) Those gentlemen had broken the pledges they had made to the country--they had broken the pledges they had made to their constituents only a few weeks ago, had crossed over to the treasury benches and left their constituents the minority--unrepresented upon this floor. They had maintained for years that the Clergy Reserves were the sacred property of their Church and that to secularize them would be to plunder that Church and yet they had crossed over to the treasury benches and were themselves prepared to do the deed of plunder.<sup>46</sup> Had not these gentlemen declared that secularization of the Reserves amounted to the destruction of rights over property? Had they not described it as a sacrilegious robbery of property which they held to be consecrated to their Church? Had they not taken vows at the altar, when they doubtless made this question one almost of their own piety, and of the piety of other people? The declarations now broken were spread over a long period, and it was to be lamented that the last professions were the shortest, and the latest objections most scurrilous in the language employed against those who thought differently--and all this by gentlemen who have crossed over to the Treasury Benches. But to consider their position towards new principles. The hon. gentlemen said they were now pledged<sup>47</sup>. What reliance could be placed upon the pledges that might now be made by men who had thus violated all the pledges of their lives? None whatever; in a few weeks they might return to their old opinions.<sup>48</sup> Perhaps Satan might again work within them--or perhaps a new light might once more break into their minds--and they might thus again return to their former places, with fresh breach of their promises.<sup>49</sup> Robert Baldwin had once truly said that "confidence once broken could never be restored and that honor once forfeited would never be regained." (Loud Cries of Hear hear.) He (Dr. R.) could not under the circumstances, be satisfied with the assurances of the member for West Northumberland that the gentlemen for whom he had acted as political godfather would be true to their pledges.<sup>50</sup> The present could only be judged by the past, and the prospect of future stability was terribly obscured by the last few days. But, said the hon. gentleman, they must fulfil their pledges. He (Dr. Rolph) believed they must, for there was his (Dr. R.'s) side of the House sitting opposite to compel them; but he was constrained to ask, whether it was a worthy condition for a strong Government to be subjected to this compulsion. It was recorded that a Russian regiment, whose courage was greatly doubted, was once employed to storm a fortress, and in order to make sure that there would be no flinching, another regiment was placed behind them, with fixed bayonets, to compel them to advance. The position of that regiment was the position of the Ministry. Hence they were not to carry out the principle of their lives, but of the lives of the gentlemen around him; and there were these gentlemen with fixed bayonets, ready to force them on. The effect of this course of theirs would be most alarming for the morality of the people of Canada, were he not sure that the people would condemn it. It was said that the Conservatives came into the place of their opponents from deference to public opinion. What!--the ties,--the ties between these men and their consciences--were their duties to their God and to the Christian world, to be thus put upon the same ground as a paltry election of a bailiff or a constable? Must they yield so far to public opinion as to plunder their church--and go on to the treasury benches? They now yielded to public opinion and profess their willingness to carry it out, because they said that if they did not do it others

would. This was to loosen the foundation of morality through the whole fabric of society. Private men would naturally take for example the conduct of the Government. The thief would say, if he did not take the coveted object another would; and the assassin would have the same argument. It was precisely that principle on which the Czar of Russia acted, when he said that the Turk was sick and must go down; that his wealth must soon be divided, and so he might as well have it as anybody else. Gentlemen opposite saw their church sick, and so they made up their mind to do what was to be done to give the last irreligious blow. When he regarded the politic effects of this course, he saw that one of them was to seduce the nobleman at the head of the Government<sup>51</sup> into sanctioning a course of action, which would surely arouse the indignation of the whole community, if he (Dr. R.) knew anything of<sup>52</sup> the people of the country.<sup>53</sup> That such a principle of action would have received the highest sanction of the Government was indeed deeply to be deplored.<sup>54</sup> Hon. members would be unworthy to sit on either side of the House, unless they were ready to meet this matter boldly, and deal with it sincerely. No one would suspect him of being willing to mention the noble lord at the head of affairs, in any terms other than those dictated by the constitution; but, as Brougham once said in the House of Lords, there was an occasion when rules must be broken.<sup>55</sup> Dr. R. then went on to remark that there was another important question to be considered at this crisis, and that was who had done this thing? It was the duty of the House to consider that question.<sup>56</sup> We had the statement<sup>57</sup> to advert to ... [that] fell from the late Inspector-General, who said that he had given that nobleman no advice<sup>58</sup> on the subject of the formation of a new Government. Now the late Inspector General must surely have waited on His Excellency to tender his resignation, and in doing so, must have related all the incidents which had led to the present embarrassing crisis in political affairs.<sup>59</sup> He must have told that nobleman that, when the House met in June, the present Speaker, seconded by the hon. member for N. York, moved a resolution of condemnation of the ministers, that after that censure visited on the Government, the House was dissolved; that an appeal was then made to the country, which was answered by the return of the Assembly he saw around him;--he must have related that when this House met, notwithstanding the rightful attempts of the Government to secure a majority, they failed to secure the election of a gentleman whom they desired to place in the chair<sup>60</sup> and how ... the honorable gentleman who had defeated them, was elected to the Chair, in opposition to the Government Candidate.<sup>61</sup> He must have told him of the dissatisfaction with the Ministry in the Reform ranks, and of the often recurring tokens of it. How singular, then, that in this long narration of passing events, if these (sic) was not one about the position of parties.<sup>62</sup> The names of a great many honorable members must have been mentioned at that interview.... It was strange that in all that conversation the chief adviser of the Crown had said not one word with reference to the formation of a new Government.<sup>63</sup> In these circumstances the old adviser of the Crown was mum<sup>64</sup>. It also seemed strange that His Lordship should have made that sudden burst which the Inspector General had mentioned, in which His Lordship declared the absence of all personal feelings, when no advice of this kind was in question.<sup>65</sup> But no, the late Inspector General appeared, according to his own account, not with his usual generosity, to have abruptly rendered his resignation, washed his hands of the whole concern, and thrown all the difficulty and odium on His Excellency.<sup>66</sup> It was hardly right for that gentleman to say, I am Prime Minister, but I have resigned. I shall therefore give no advice, but wash my hands clear of the whole business. The hon. Inspector General was still holding the seals of office, and if the Governor General did not ask, it was his duty to tender advice; was not that the conduct of British

statesmen on all occasions? Had they left the Crown to struggle with difficulties without giving advice, sometimes, even, when it was far from acceptable. He remembered well when the Duke of Wellington, being the only soldier in the ministry, was sent by his colleagues to Windsor, to inform George the 4th that he must discontinue his buildings at Windsor, as they could not ask for grants from parliament for them. He remembered also when William the 4th was in difficulty about the Reform Bill, and that the ministry then did not wait to be asked, but went to His Majesty and told the monarch, that though he did not like it, he must do it. There was not a critical period in English history in which the ministry had failed to do their duty in this way. This constituted all the difference between giving advice when asked, and what was properly called tendering advice. The hon. gentleman, at the time he referred to, still held the seals of office<sup>67</sup> for the successors of the late ministry were not then appointed.<sup>68</sup> Why were they held? They ought either to have been laid at the foot of the throne, or that advice ought to have been offered.<sup>69</sup> Either the late Inspector General must have inaccurately related the facts or the Governor General must have been left for some time without an adviser<sup>70</sup>. It must be supposed if the Crown had thus been left to act unaided by official advice<sup>71</sup> given in a proper and constitutional manner<sup>72</sup> that there was some hand behind the throne, moving the conduct of the noble Lord, otherwise all Constitutional Government was lost, and there was an absolute Viceroy without advisers. The Crown, however, must still be kept out of reach; but it was precisely on that account that the House had a right to ask who gave the advice, so as to avoid calling in question the unfortunate individual whom this advice had seduced into error.<sup>73</sup> He maintained that according to all Constitutional usage, His Excellency, instead of sending for Sir A. McNab should have sent for the honorable Speaker (Mr. Sicotte,) on whose motion ministers were defeated in the last Parliament, and in whom the present House had expressed its confidence<sup>74</sup>. Who counselled the noble Lord to give him the constitutional go by?<sup>75</sup> There was a constitutional requirement that he should have been sent for. The liberal party had defeated its own government; and such of its members as took part in that movement had a constitutional right to be sent for.<sup>76</sup> Then there was the person who seconded the Speaker's motion, the member for North York; was he unworthy to be called to the foot of the throne, and asked to try to form a ministry out of the elements of the great party of which he was a member? If there were really no personal feeling in this matter, there was another gentleman with good right to be sent for. He meant the late speaker of the House, or the hon. member for Lincoln, who as long as he had known him, had been the friend of rational liberty and progressive reform, who had been a member of the Government, and who was universally respected in the House, was certainly as fit a person to be sent to for advice, as Mr. Spence could be of being Postmaster General. Was not the Postmaster himself, as a member of the party of the majority, more worthy constitutionally to be sent for than a Conservative, to whom he was now to be made subservient? Then there was Mr. Wilson. That gentleman was told he would be sent for, and on receiving the announcement he had consulted among his friends as to whom among them was disposed to take the responsibility of assuming office; but having done all this, he was at last informed that he had not the confidence of the Crown. He might name many other gentlemen, but all these were passed over. It was not less remarkable that the present Commissioner of Crown Lands was not sent for, nor the hon. John Ross, now the President of the Legislative Council, neither of whom could have refused to assume the leadership without being unworthy of their party.<sup>77</sup> He expressed his deep regret at the humiliating position in which the honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands, (Mr. Morin,) was placed. (Hear hear.) He



felt confident that, if that gentleman had been first consulted,<sup>78</sup> he would not have failed to attempt to avert what had taken place.<sup>79</sup> But no, Sir Allan McNab was sent for, and, strange to say, Sir Allan went straight to Mr. Morin, to see how far they could compromise their principles so as to unite. (Hear hear.)<sup>80</sup> He was most courteously received of course. How courteously must he not have been received, when he came to ask a minister of the Crown how far he would compromise his political principles!<sup>81</sup> And then, stranger still, Sir Allan went to the retiring Prime Minister<sup>82</sup>--rather an unconstitutional proceeding, for Mr. Hincks was a minister who had been censured by the House; who had resigned,<sup>83</sup> who still held the seals of office, and who, though he could not advise His Excellency, had plenty of counsel, it seemed, to tender to Sir Allan (Hear, hear.)<sup>84</sup> Yet, Sir Allan and he advise[d] together, and he showed Sir Allan how to get over the difficulty of his position--how the majority was to be contemned (sic)--and how the minority might place themselves on the Treasury Benches. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Hincks) had since said, that he was astonished, as well he might be, that Sir Allan should come to ask him how he might gain over the noble minds, filled with integrity and endowed with every refinement of taste, who had opposed him; but with that energy for which the late Inspector General was remarkable, though he could not approach those gentlemen himself, he pointed out the means of getting at them, in a way, that have (sic) astonished him, (Dr. Rolph). The late Inspector General, too, said that the position of Sir Allan was one he would not like himself to hold, and he (Dr. R.) thought that he had better therefore have washed his hands of it, and as he had left the crown without advice, might have left Sir A. without it also. The Inspector General, however, notwithstanding his astonishment and his dislike of Sir A.'s position, agreed admirably with the gallant Knight, and the thing was accomplished. He might be thought to have spoken harshly, but he could not, without sorrow, see things that must disturb the public mind, endanger the constitution, and, perhaps, hereafter produce changes in our institutions; for if these things were to recur too frequently, he would rather see a change in the system than disaster following disaster. He was bound to denounce this arrangement; for if he went to any reform county and offered his services, he should be told, you allowed your party to be sold, and you held your peace; or if he went to a tory constituency, he would be told, we have been sold by our friends; we do not want to be again sold by our opponents. He hoped, however, what had now been done would be no precedent for the future. He was happy to see himself surrounded by men who had not taken part in this proceeding.<sup>85</sup> He saw around him on the opposition benches many true and tried reformers, and also that the glory of the great conservative party had not entirely passed away, but that there were still a few members of that party who would maintain its high character and standing,<sup>86</sup> who would not let go that glorious consistency, for which he had so often honored their party<sup>87</sup>, and rather stand and fall with it than obtain possession of the treasury benches by the sacrifice of all the principles of their whole political lives.<sup>88</sup> He would be sorry to see such men passed over.<sup>89</sup>

The hon. member sat down amidst loud cheers from his own side of the House.<sup>90</sup>

MR. PREVOST ... demanda la parole et s'exprima à peu près en ces termes:

D'après ce que j'ai vu et entendu dans cette chambre, je comprends qu'il est convenable et même nécessaire que chaque membre de cette assemblée fasse connaître à cette chambre le degré de confiance qu'il porte aux membres qui forment l'administration actuelle. Pour ma part, M. l'Orateur, lorsque je passe en revue la conduite de ces messieurs dont les uns sont au pouvoir depuis 1851 et d'autres depu[i]s longtemps, je dois avouer que le degré de confiance

que je repose dans cette administration est bien minime.

Comme plusieurs journaux ont dit que j'étais naguère un ministériel forcené, je dois faire connaître à cette chambre et au pays qu'en effet la plus grande partie de mon éducation politique est due à l'honorable commissaire des terres (Mr. Morin) et à l'honorable juge en chef du Bas-Canada (M. Lafontaine); à M. Morin au moyen des 92 [r]ésolutions, et à M. Lafontaine au moyen d'[u]ne résolution qu'il fit passer à une assemblée du comté de Terrebonne en 1837; par cett[e] résolution il était reconnu que la liberté et [l]e progrès du pays ne seraient obtenus qu'en [f]esant disparaître de ce pays ce moyen d'autocratie qui le rongeaît depuis son établi[ss]ement--les seigneurs.

C'est au moyen de l'interp[r]étation que messieurs Morin et Lafontaine e[t] leurs collègues donnaient au gouvernement [r]esponsable, qu'ils possédaient ma confianc[e]. Qu'était suivant eux cette forme de gou[v]ernement? rien autre chose qu'un gouverne[m]ent démocratique et populaire--que par ce gouvernement le peuple gouvernait, [et] il pouvait exiger les nominations d'officiers [lo]caux selon ses vœux. C'est un moyen de cette interprétation que depuis ma jeunesse j'ai toujours aidé assez puissamment à faire élire M. Lafontaine dans le comté de Terrebonne.

Mais M. l'Orateur, qu'ont fait ces messieurs (Morin et Lafontaine) et leurs collègues? Ils m'ont trompé, ils ont trompé le peuple, ils ont trompé leur pays en foulant aux pieds les principes du gouvernement responsable, du gouvernement populaire. Suivons-les dans leur conduite et voyons jusqu'à quel point ils ont renié et trahi leurs principes.

Ils ont réprouvé en plus grande partie les 92 résolutions rédigées par M. Morin lui-même.

Ils ont réprouvé le fameux manifeste de la réforme et du progrès, dont M. Chauveau a été le principal rédacteur.

Ils ont négligé et même refusé de procurer au peuple la liberté et au pays ses intérêts en ne faisant point disparaître la Tenure Seigneuriale, cette tenure qui a tant retardé les progrès du pays. A propos de la mesure dont cette Chambre doit s'occuper dans la présente session pour régler les droits seigneuriaux, je dois déclarer à cette Chambre que je désire une abolition totale et immédiate de la Tenure Seigneuriale et que je suis d'opinion qu'il ne soit accordé aux seigneurs une indemnité que pour les droits ordinaires légalement et légitimement acquis.

Ils ont maintenu dans sa charge un officier public, le greffier de la Cour de Circuit de Terrebonne, qui avait manqué à son devoir par sa négligence à enregistrer aussitôt sa réception, selon que la loi lui en imposait le devoir, le tarif des frais de justice promulgué en décembre 1850.

Ils ont refusé à la paroisse de Terrebonne des nominations d'officiers locaux (juges de paix et commissaires de petites causes) que cette paroisse réclamait--méprisant le choix d'hommes qu'elle avait fait et en qui elle reposait confiance, pour lui imposer des hommes que la paroisse n'avait point voulu recommander.

Ils ont chargé un médecin d'administrer la loi en nommant à la charge de registrateur du comté de Terrebonne, le docteur Lachaine, résidant à Ste. Thérèse, à quatre lieues de l'endroit où se tient le bureau et entièrement ignorant en droit; qu'était ce médecin? un ami, un protégé de M. Morin.

Ils ont payé à ce même docteur Lachaine comme commissaire pour avoir procédé au dernier recensement du comté de Terrebonne, dont la population n'était que de 26,791, la modique somme de £93 15s, tandis qu'il n'était réclamé par le commissaire du comté de St. Hyacinthe, dont la population était de 30,623 que £44 5s; le recensement du comté de Terrebonne a coûté £281 18s

3d, tandis qu'il n'a été payé pour celui de St. Hyacinthe bien plus populeux que £196 ls 10d; il est bien vrai qu'on a alloué à quelques députés de l'Ile Jésus et des paroisses de Terrebonne et Ste. Thérèse, où il était aussi facile de faire le recensement que dans les rues de Québec, 15s par 100 âmes au lieu de 10s qu'on accordait à d'autres qui n'étaient point les protégés de M. Morin. A propos de ces moyens de corruption je préviens l'administration que je la suivrai pas à pas et la surveillerai les chiffres en mains.

Ils ont négligé la codification des lois du Bas-Canada que M. Drummond promettait il y a quelques années dans un discours qu'il fit à un dîner public à Montréal.

Ils ont laissé le pays dans un cahot insurmontable en négligeant de réformer notre régime hypothécaire et les bureaux d'enregistrement. M. Lafontaine disait dans sa critique sur l'ordonnance d'enregistrement que c'était une de ces lois faites à coup de ciseaux; qu'a-t-il fait et après lui ses amis depuis 14 ans et plus? ils ont traité cette loi à coup de marteau.

Ils ont refusé au pays l'importante mesure demandée depuis si longtemps: la décentralisation judiciaire.

Ils ont présidé à cette loi inique, anti-démocratique passée dans le dernier parlement en vertu de laquelle deux conseillers avec le concours de la majorité du conseil, contre les vœux de toute une paroisse, peut (sic) ruiner une localité en l'engageant à des sommes de deniers illimitées dans les entreprises de chemin de fer.

Ils ont négligé les intérêts du Bas-Canada en ne lui donnant point un fonds d'emprunt municipal analogue à celui du Haut-Canada.

Ils ont répudié le système électif qu'ils ava[ie]nt tant recommandé et sans lequel le peuple n'a point de liberté.

Ils ont perdu le Bas-Canada pour toujours et sans ress[o]urce en laissant passer la loi impériale qui p[er]met de changer notre constitution en rendan[t] [i]e conseil législatif électif avec la clause qui rap[p]elle les dispositions de la loi constitutionnelle [de] 1840, par lesquelles la représentation ne po[u]vait être changée ni augmentée que par les deu[x] tiers des représentants. Maintenant que deviendra le Bas-Canada? Au premier jour [le] Haut-Canada aura un plus grand nombre d[e] députés que le Bas-Canada, et ainsi cette [d]ernière section ne sera plus comme elle [ne] l'est déj[à] que trop un champ d'exploitation pour le Ha[ut]-Canada. Ils ont négligé de séculariser les réserves du clergé, mesure si importante réclamée si fortement par le Haut-Canada. Je suis d'opinion que par l'acte constitutionnel de 1791 qui réservait ces biens pour le clergé protestant, il était laissé à la législature provinciale le pouvoir d'en disposer autrement, et je considère qu'il n'est que juste que ces biens retournent à l'état; à propos de cette mesure il a plu à l'honorable membre pour Oxford et Renfrew, M. Hincks, d'avancer à un dîner public à London, que j'étais opposé à cette mesure et que c'était la raison pour laquelle j'avais remporté mon élection contre M. Morin, et il disait cela à la vue de mon adresse, qui au second article contenait que je voulais la sécularisation de ces biens. Pourquoi ces faussetés pour préjuger les Haut-Canadiens contre les Bas-Canadiens? Je profite de cette occasion pour déclarer que je fais une grande distinction entre les réserves du clergé et les biens de nos communautés religieuses; ces derniers biens n'ont jamais appartenu au gouvernement, la plupart ont été réservés par l'acte de capitulation entre la France et l'Angleterre et les autres sont des dons particuliers--ainsi je suis d'opinion que ces biens ne peuvent être touchés ni affectés aucunement.

Ici M. Prévost fait allusion au vote du 20 juin et offre quelques considérations sur la nature de l'alliance que viennent de faire les ministres du Bas-Canada avec les conservateurs du Haut-Canada, puis continue:



Le Canadien a publié que je devais mon élection aux orangistes du Gore de New Glasgow qui avaient choisi M. Lafontaine en 1841, avec le concours des rouges du Sud. Il fallait que le rédacteur de ce journal fut bien mal informé et connut peu les lois qui formaient nos comtés, puisque dès 1843 M. Lafontaine avait détaché le Gore du comté de Terrebonne. Il est bien vrai qu'une vingtaine de ces orangistes sont venus voter dans le comté, mais pour qui? pour M. Morin. Quant aux rouges du Sud auquel le Canadien fait allusion, ce ne pouvait être que les habitants du comté de Laval entièrement étrangers au comté de Terrebonne, mais propriétaire[s] de terres à bois, lesquels sont tous poussés par l'inspecteur des écoles et autres protégés de M. Morin qui visent à des places de registrateur, greffier, etc., et qui sont encore venus voter pour M. Morin.

Maintenant M. l'Orateur, il est facile de juger du degré de confiance que je dois reposer dans la présente administration. Quelles raisons pourraient avoir les hommes au pouvoir pour refuser à la paroisse de Terrebonne de nouveaux juges de paix et commissaires de petites causes, les personnes que la paroisse recommandait? est-ce que les personnes MM. Edouard Masson, B.C. Marier et Joseph Rochon, n'étaient point assez importantes? Ils ont eu assez d'importance pour faire la dernière élection de Terrebonne.<sup>91</sup>

MR. POULIOT contended that Messrs. Lafontaine and Morin had achieved for the country all its liberties; said that he did not like Rouges nor sans culottes, nor the principles of '98; that the Rouges wanted to destroy everything, though they could build up nothing; and that the combination was necessary to establish a barrier to the invasions of their nonsense. The Conservatives had completely liberalized themselves, and must go in the same way, while the rouges had shown themselves tyrants by their treatment of Mr. Brodeur.<sup>92</sup>

DR. MASSON, représentant de Soulanges, fit aussi son début ce soir-là. Voici la substance de ses remarques; il dit qu'en se levant pour la première fois depuis qu'il a eu l'honneur de prendre son siège, il ne le fait pas pour prendre la défense des résolutions qui doivent servir de base à une adresse en réponse au discours du trône. Ce sujet a déjà été si savamment et si patriotiquement discuté par les honorables membres pour Laprairie, et Northumberland "qu'il ne lui conviendrait pas à lui, nouveau membre dans cette chambre, d'en faire voir le mérite. Il ne se lève, dit-il, que pour répondre à des insinuations qui, pour se servir du même langage que celui de l'honorable membre pour la cité de Montréal, ont été jettées (sic) à la face de ceux qui, comme lui, ont l'honneur de siéger à la droite de cette chambre. (Ecoutez). L'hon. membre pour Montréal ayant dit "que des sièges des honorables membres du côté droit, avaient été obtenus d'une manière frauduleuse. Lui, M. Masson se croit en droit de lui demander comment les honorables membres qui siègent avec lui à l'extrême gauche ont obtenu (sic) les leurs! Il ne nous a pas dit "comment l'honorable membre de l'Assomption avait obtenu le sien, si c'était en faisant le signe de croix de la main gauche, ou de la main droite! (Ecoutez et applaudissements).<sup>93</sup>

M. Masson a pris la liberté de demander à M. Papin combien il avait mangé de pain bénit et bu d'eau bénite pour entrer en chambre.<sup>94</sup>

Ici l'hon. membre fut appelé à l'ordre<sup>95</sup>.

[DR. MASSON] demande l'indulgence de la chambre. Il pourrait se faire que nouveau membre, il n'en connaîtrait pas encore toutes les règles. Il ne prétend pas se laisser aller à aucunes personnalités, et ceux qui le connaissent savent bien que telle n'est pas son intention.

L'insulte lui est d'abord venue de la montagne, il croit avoir le droit de

la renvoyer de ce côté. L'hon. membre pour Montréal, lui reproche à lui et à ses amis d'avoir accepté le gallant chevalier qui représente la cité de Hamilton.

Comme patriote de 1837, comme un de ceux qui ont eu à souffrir dans ces temps de deuil et de désastres, et le seul dans cette chambre, il a peut-être plus que les autres à se plaindre de la conduite du galant chevalier. Ces temps sont oubliés et lorsqu'il voit l'hon. membre pour Hamilton venir de l'avant et lui offrir la main de l'amitié, il ne croit pas devoir lui refuser la sienne, d'autant plus que l'hon. membre pour Hamilton, en faisant le sacrifice de ses principes, est prêt et s'engage à donner au Bas-Canada toutes les mesures désirées, toutes les grandes mesures que le pays réclame avec impatience. (Ecoutez.) Comme représentant du riche et indépendant comté de Soulanges, il n'a pas été envoyé ici pour faire de l'opposition et arrêter le progrès de ces mesures.

L'hon. membre pour Montréal reproche encore au parti libéral d'avoir joint le parti conservateur; M. Masson nie cela.--Ce sont les conservateurs qui se sont rapprochés de nous, et il ne voit pas pourquoi on doit leur tourner le dos.--Si ces reproches devaient être appliqués à un parti, ce serait à Messrs. les Rouges qui marchent avec le plus exagérés de ce parti, avec les incendiaires des maisons du Parlement, avec ce qu'il y a de plus anti-religieux, et de plus anti-libéral.<sup>96</sup> The rouges had been four years in alliance with the Tories, who ... now wanted to destroy every Canadian institution. If the member for Terrebonne, or Montreal, or Beauharnois, were in the House at all, they owed it to Tories and Orangemen.<sup>97</sup>

L'honorable membre pour Montréal ne peut nier "que s'il a l'honneur aujourd'hui de siéger en cette Chambre, il doit son élection à l'union de son parti avec celui des furibonds de 1849. On pourrait en dire autant de l'hon. membre de Terrebonne, et de son ami l'hon. membre de Beauharnois qui doit son siège aux 50 voix conservatrices de son comté--Les honorables membres peuvent-ils nier, dit-il: "que l'opposition faite à son compagnon d'exil, le Maire actuel de Montréal, a été faite par l'alliance des Rouges avec tout ce qu'il y a de plus illibéral, de plus anti religieux--(à quelques exceptions près)? Nier ces faits,--serait nier leur propre existence.

M. Masson n'est pas venu en cette Chambre pour y faire de grands discours, et se quereller au sujet de ceux qui doivent, par la partie du Haut-Canada, occuper les bancs des ministres.--Il lui est entièrement indifférent "que ce soit l'hon. membre pour Glengarry ou Hamilton" pourvu que les mesures dont le Bas-Banada (*sic*) a besoin nous soient immédiatement soumises de la part de l'administration.... Quant aux hons. messieurs, qui siègent à l'extrême gauche, il est dans leur droit de faire de l'opposition et de l'opposition quand même.

Mais lui, M. Masson, tout humble qu'il est dans sa profession, il prévoit que malgré les consultations gratis, du médecin de la Montagne, et l'argent du Banquier, qui devra payer les frais de la maladie, après un grand travail, et beaucoup de douleurs--comme l'a dit judicieusement son hon. ami le membre pour Dorchester: "La montagne en travail n'accouchera que d'une souris."<sup>98</sup> In spite of all their boasts, he believed they [the rouges] would soon be cast aside by the people.<sup>99</sup>

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*On motion of Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Mackenzie,  
Ordered, That the Debate be further adjourned until To-morrow.*

*Then, on motion of Mr. Stevenson, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chauveau,  
The House adjourned.*<sup>100</sup>

## APPENDIX: 14 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO AMEND ACT AMENDING LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY INDEPENDENCE ACT.]

MR. CAMERON [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to amend the Act entitled, An Act to amend the Act for better securing the independence of the Legislative Assembly of this Province.<sup>101</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO ESTABLISH COUNTY AND REGISTRY OFFICE OF BROME.]

MR. FERRES [gave notice that] on Tuesday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to erect the Townships of Sutton, Potton, Bolton, and the East part of Farnham, now constituting the East Riding of the Electoral County of Missisquoi, into a County for Municipal and other purposes, under the name of the County of Brome, and to establish a Register (sic) Office therein.<sup>102</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: RAILROAD INCORPORATION AND REGULATION BILL.]

MR. FOLEY [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to authorise the formation of Railroad Corporations and to regulate the same.<sup>103</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO PERMIT ELECTION OF COUNTY OFFICERS.]

MR. FOLEY [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to authorize the people of the several Counties of this Province to elect their own County Officers.<sup>104</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO INCORPORATE HUNTINGDON ACADEMY.]

MR. SOMERVILLE [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate the Huntingdon Academy.<sup>105</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO AMEND NATURALIZATION LAW.]

MR. FERRIE [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to amend the naturalization law of this Province.<sup>106</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO INCORPORATE SOREL, DRUMMONDVILLE AND RICHMOND RAILROAD.]

MR. J. DORION, (of Drummond, &c.) [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate the Sorel, Drummondville and Richmond Railroad Company.<sup>107</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: DEBENTURES ISSUED UNDER CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL LOAN FUND ACT.]

MR. GALT [gave notice that] on Tuesday next [he would move for an] Address to his Excellency for a Return of the Amount of Debentures issued under the authority of the Consolidated Municipal Fund Act; specifying the names of the Municipalities; the objects for which the said debentures have been issued; the date of the passage of the bye-laws for the same, the date when the same were sanctioned by the Governor in Council, the periods and places at which the principal and interest on the said debentures are payable, the amount, if any, which has been paid to the Receiver General on account of the same, and the amount, if any, which has been paid on the same account.<sup>108</sup>



[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: COMPLAINTS AGAINST JOHN MAGUIRE, QUEBEC POLICE MAGISTRATE.]

MR. FERRES [gave notice that] on Tuesday next [he would move for an] Address to his Excellency the Governor General, praying that his Excellency will be pleased to direct the proper officer to transmit to this House copies of all complaints made to the Government, relative to the conduct of John Maguire, Esquire, Police Magistrate for the City of Quebec, and of his answers thereto.<sup>109</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ADDRESS RE: LOWER CANADA BOARD OF EDUCATION.]

DR. MASSON [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for an] Address to His Excellency, praying him to cause to be laid before this House, copies of all Documents, Petitions, letters and correspondence, relative to the Board of Education for Lower Canada, which have taken place between the Superintendent and the different School Municipalities of that section of the Province.<sup>110</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: STATEMENT OF BANK SHAREHOLDERS.]

MR. MACKENZIE [gave notice that] on Thursday next [he would move] that the Clerk be directed to request the managers of the different Banks in Canada to transmit, for the information of this House, a statement shewing the names of every Shareholder in such Bank, the amount of Stock the Shareholders severally hold, distinguishing, where it is possible, new stock granted under Statutes passed in the two last Parliaments.<sup>111</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE TO PREPARE LISTS OF MEMBERS FOR SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.]

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN [gave notice that] to-morrow [he would move] that a Select Committee of eleven Members be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by the House; and that the said Committee be composed of Mr. Dewitt, the Hon. Mr. Hincks, the Hon. Mr. McDonald, (of Glengary), the Hon. Mr. Cameron, Mr. Lemieux, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Cauchon, Mr. Hartman, Mr. Dorion, (of Montreal), Mr. Felton, Mr. Patrick, Mr. Wright, and the mover.<sup>112</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: DEEPENING OF CHANNEL OF ST. LAWRENCE OPPOSITE SOULANGES.]

DR. MASSON [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would make] Enquiry of [the] Ministry, whether any contracts have been entered into for deep[en]ing the channel in the Rapids of Coteau and Cedars, in the St. Lawrence, opposite the County of Soulouges (*sic*), and if so, to what amount, what are the names of the Contractors, and specifi[c]ations of the Contract.<sup>113</sup>

[AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED TO ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO SPEECH FROM THRONE.]

Amendment to be proposed by MR. PREVOST, seconded by MR. J. DORION (of Drummond and Arthabaska), to the resolutions in answer to the Speech from the Throne, at the opening of the present session:--That between the words, "Municipal Loan Fund Act" and the words, "the other subjects," in the fifth line of the eighth paragraph, the following be inserted: That this Honorable House regrets no allusion has been made in his Excellency's Speech, to a reform in the system of hypothecation; to the establishment of Registry Offices in the new Counties; to the codification of the laws and judicial decentralization; and ventures to hope that this omission does not indicate that these important subjects will not receive the attention of this House during the present session.<sup>114</sup>

## FOOTNOTES: 14 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. GLOBE, 20 September 1854, commented; "The House met at 7 o'clock. The leading members of the House had changed their seats, to conform to the recent political changes. Mr. Mackenzie had taken the place lately occupied by Sir A. McNab, and Messrs. Brown, Macdonald, (Glengary,) Rolph, and Dorion, of Montreal, also occupied seats on the front Opposition benches. Several prominent members of the late Conservative party occupied seats on the Ministerial side of the House. TORONTO LEADER, 15 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard), noted that the House met late, "in order to allow members an opportunity to visit the Provincial exhibition."
2. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
3. IBID.
4. IBID.
5. IBID.
6. IBID.
7. IBID.
8. IBID.
9. IBID.
10. IBID.
11. IBID.
12. IBID.
13. IBID.
14. MORNING CHRONICLE, 16 September 1854.
15. IBID.
16. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
17. IBID.
18. IBID.
19. Telegraph (PILOT, 16 September 1854).
20. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
21. IBID.
22. IBID.
23. IBID.
24. Telegraph (PILOT, 16 September 1854).
25. IBID.
26. IBID.
27. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
28. IBID.
29. TORONTO LEADER, 15 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard), noted, "The debate on the address did not come on till about a quarter to ten."
30. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
31. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
32. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
33. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
34. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
35. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
36. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
37. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
38. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
39. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
40. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
41. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
42. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.

43. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
44. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
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47. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
48. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
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50. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
51. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
52. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
53. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
54. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
55. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
56. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
57. TORONTO LEADER, 15 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
58. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
59. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
60. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
61. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
62. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
63. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
64. TORONTO LEADER, 15 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
65. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
66. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
67. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
68. TORONTO LEADER, 15 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
69. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
70. TORONTO LEADER, 15 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
71. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
72. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
73. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
74. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
75. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
76. TORONTO LEADER, 15 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
77. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
78. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
79. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
80. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
81. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
82. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
83. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
84. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
85. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
86. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
87. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
88. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
89. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
90. IBID.
91. LE PAYS, 19 September 1854.
92. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
93. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
94. LA MINERVE, 28 October 1854.
95. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.



96. IBID.
97. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
98. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
99. PILOT, 18 September 1854.
100. GLOBE, 20 September 1854, noted that the House adjourned "near midnight."
101. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 18 September 1854.
102. IBID.
103. IBID.
104. IBID.
105. IBID.
106. IBID.
107. IBID.
108. IBID.
109. IBID.
110. IBID.
111. IBID.
112. IBID.
113. IBID.
114. IBID.



FRIDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 1854.

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MR. Speaker laid before the House, Returns of Bonds and Securities recorded in the Provincial Registrar's Office, between the 19th August, 1852, and the 5th September, 1854, prepared in compliance with the Act 4 & 5 Vic. cap. 91, sec. 15. For the said Returns, see Appendix (J.)

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Hartman,--The Petition of the Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge Company.

By Mr. Jobin,--The Petition of the Reverend Antoine Manseau and others, of the County of Joliette; and the Petition of E.B.G. De Lanaudière, Esquire, and others, of the County of Joliette.

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By Mr. Felton,--The Petition of R.N. Webber and others, of the Townships of Shipton and Melbourne, District of St. Francis.

By Mr. Bellingham,--The Petition of the Trustees of the Academy of St. André D'Argenteuil.

By the Honorable Mr. Young,--The Petition of the Montreal and Vermont Junction Railway Company.

By Mr. Alleyn,--The Petition of Miss Eliza Taylor, Secretary, on behalf of the Committee of Ladies conducting the Protestant Female Orphan Asylum at Quebec.

By Mr. Guévremont,--The Petition of E.W. Carter and others, of the Municipality of William Henry.

By Mr. Holton,--The Petition of the Committee of Management of the Montreal Industrial House of Refuge.

By Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion,--The Petition of G. Houle and others, of the Township of Warwick; the Petition of A. Labrecque and others, of the Township of Warwick; the Petition of A.B. Lafrenière, Esquire, and others, of St. Guillaume; the Petition of A. Boisvert and others, of the Township of Warwick; the Petition of Pierre Marcotte and others, of the Township of Warwick; the Petition of Pierre Croteau and others, of the Township of Warwick, County of Arthabaska; and the Petition of T. Paradis and others, of the Parish of St. Guillaume d'Upton.

By Mr. McCann,--The Petition of the Municipal Council of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell.

By Mr. Darche,--The Petition of the Reverend L.H. Brassard and others, of the Parish of Longueuil.

By Mr. Cauchon,--The Petition of Thomas Devaney, of the Township of Inverness, in the County of Megantic, Farmer, Adam Bailey and John Ross, both of the Township of Leeds, in the same County, Farmers, and Robert Rickaby, William Gunston, William F. Rickaby, and John Smith, all of the Township of Inverness aforesaid, Farmers; and the Petition of John Greaves Clapham, of the City of Quebec, Esquire.

By Mr. Stevenson,--The Petition of Benjamin Seymour, of Bath, in the Incorporated County of Lenox and Addington, Esquire, and others, Electors for the said County.

By Mr. Lemieux,--The Petition of Télesphore Fournier, Esquire, Advocate, of the City of Quebec, a Candidate for the County of Montmagny, at the last General Election, and as such duly qualified, and François Tétu, Esquire, Provincial Surveyor, and Magloire Tétu, Cultivator, both of the Parish of St. Thomas, District of Quebec.

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:--

Of the Reverend D. Charland and others, of the Parish of St. Clément; praying for aid in behalf of the College at Beauharnois.



Of François Rouleau and others; praying for aid to construct a Road through the Township of Newton, in the County of Vaudreuil.

Of Joseph Laurin, Esquire, Notary Public, and heretofore Member of Parliament for the County of Lotbinière, residing in the Parish of L'Ancienne Lorette, in the County of Quebec; setting forth:--That at the late Election of a Member to serve in the present Parliament for the County of Lotbinière, in this Province, John O'Farrell, Esquire, of the City of Quebec, Advocate, James Thurber, of the Parish of Ste. Croix, in the said County of Lotbinière, Esquire, and the Petitioner, were Candidates; and that the Petitioner then claimed and still doth claim the right to be returned at the said Election as a Member for the said County of Lotbinière: That under and by virtue of the Writ of Election for the said County, bearing date at the said City of Quebec, the twenty-third day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, the

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seventeenth day of July, in the year aforesaid, was fixed as the nomination day for the said Election, upon which day Rémi S. Noël, Esquire, Registrar for the said County, there being and acting as Returning Officer for the said Election, proceeded to hold the said Election in the Parish of Ste. Croix, in the said County: That previous to the opening of the said Election, the Petitioner, of his own free will and accord, made and delivered to the said Returning Officer the declaration in writing required of him by Law as such Candidate, and that after opening of the said Election and the observance of the formalities required by Law in that behalf, the said John O'Farrell being, as aforesaid, a Candidate at the Election for the said County of Lotbinière, was, at the said Election, to wit: on the nomination day aforesaid, called upon to make the declaration in writing by Law required of him in that behalf as such Candidate, by one of the electors and voters of the said County duly qualified to vote at such Election, to wit: by Louis Urbain Grenier, Esquire, residing in the Parish of Lotbinière, Physician: That on the twenty-fourth day of July last, the first day for the polling of votes for the Election of a Member for the said County, the said John O'Farrell made and delivered to the said Returning Officer a certain document, purporting to be the said declaration, a copy whereof is here transcribed:--"I, John O'Farrell, of Quebec, Advocate, do declare and testify, that I am duly seized at Law or in Equity as of freehold for my own use and benefit, of lands or tenements held in free and common soccage, and that I am duly seized or possessed for my own benefit, of lands and tenements held in roture in the Province of Canada, of the value of five hundred pounds sterling money of Great Britain, over and above all rents, mortgages, charges and incumbrances charged upon or due and payable out of or affecting the same; and that I have not collusively or colourably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands and tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of qualifying or enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada; and I further declare, that the lands or tenements above mentioned consist of, 1st. An emplacement, situate at the place called Cap Blanc, in the Lower Town of Quebec, having twenty-two feet English measure in front, by the distance in depth from Champlain Street to the point of the Cape, bounded in front by the said Street, in rear by the Cime-du-Cap, on one side to the South-west by Michael Stapleton or his representatives, and on the other side to the North-east by Patrick Kennedy, with a two story wooden house and its dependencies thereon erected: 2ndly. Lot number eleven in the seventh Concession of the Township of Ireland, in the County of Megantic, containing two-hundred arpents in superficies, with the ordinary road allowance: 3rdly. Lot number seven in the thirteenth range of the Township of Nelson, in the said County, containing also two hundred acres in superficies, with the

ordinary road allowance: 4thly. Lots numbers twenty-one and thirty in the eleventh range of the Township of Somerset, in the said County, containing two hundred and fifty-three acres in superficies, with the ordinary road allowance. Ste. Croix, 17th July, 1854. (Signed,) J. O'Farrell. Received and acknowledged, before me, this twenty-fourth day of July, 1854. (Signed,) R.S. Noël, Returning Officer": That the Petitioner is informed and has reason to believe that on the day of the commencement of the said Election, to wit: on the said seventeenth day of July last, the lands and tenements mentioned and described in the said document purporting to be the said declaration in Law as aforesaid, of the said John O'Farrell, were not, nor are they at this present moment, of the value of five hundred pounds sterling, over and above all rents, mortgages, charges and incumbrances charged upon or payable out of or affecting the said lands or tenements: That the number of votes supposed to have been taken and registered for and in favor of the said John O'Farrell is one thousand five hundred and

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seventy-five; that the number of votes given and registered for and in favor of the Petitioner is eight hundred and one, and, that no vote was given or registered for the said James Thurber at the said Election, as appears in and by the Poll Books of the said Election, thus giving an apparent majority of seven hundred and seventy-four votes for the said John O'Farrell over the votes given in favor of the Petitioner: That in the Parish of St. Sylvestre, in the said County, on the second day of voting, the twenty-fifth day of July last, being the second polling day for the said Election in the said Parish, the said John O'Farrell, with his agents and partizans, took possession of the said Poll, and by force, violence and intimidation, excluded from the said Poll the representatives of the Petitioner, his voters and electors, partizans, agents and friends; that the said Poll-house in the said Parish of St. Sylvestre was so taken possession of by the said John O'Farrell, his agents and partizans, for the purpose and with the intention of facilitating the taking of illegal votes for and in favor of the said John O'Farrell, and that in fact a large number of illegal votes, to wit: nine hundred and more, of such votes were received and registered in the said Parish of St. Sylvestre in favor of the said John O'Farrell; that the actual number of votes in the said Parish of St. Sylvestre is only five hundred, and that, nevertheless, the said John O'Farrell, at the said Election, received and registered in his favor, in the said Parish of St. Sylvestre, one thousand and thirty-three votes, and that the said Petitioner only received and registered ninety-nine votes in the said Parish, notwithstanding that the said Petitioner had voters and electors in the said Parish of St. Sylvestre to the number of three hundred and fifty or more: That in the Parish of Ste. Agathe, in the said County, on the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth days of July, respectively, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, being the polling days in the said Parish for the said Election, the said John O'Farrell, his agents and partizans, took possession of the said Poll, and by force, violence and intimidation, excluded from the said Poll the representatives of the Petitioner, his voters and electors, partizans, agents and friends; that the said Poll-house in the said Parish of Ste. Agathe was so taken possession of by the said John O'Farrell, his agents and partizans, for the purpose and with the intention of facilitating the taking of illegal votes for and in favor of the said John O'Farrell, and that in fact a large number of illegal votes, to wit: two hundred such votes, were taken and registered in the said Parish of Ste. Agathe, in favor of the said John O'Farrell; that the actual number of votes in the said Parish of Ste. Agathe is only sixty, and that, nevertheless, the said John O'Farrell received and registered in his favor at the said Election in the said Parish of



Ste. Agathe, two hundred and twenty-eight votes, and that the Petitioner only received and registered eight votes in the said Parish, although the Petitioner had voters and electors in the said Parish of Ste. Agathe to the number of thirty or more: That many persons voted more than ten times each at the said Election, both at the Poll in the Parish of St. Sylvestre, and at that in the Parish of Ste. Agathe, and that some even voted twenty times: That the Petitioner had at the said Election a great majority of the legal votes, and that the said John O'Farrell, having only a majority of the illegal votes, was by the said Returning Officer unduly and illegally proclaimed as having been duly elected as a Member to represent the said County in the Legislature, and that the said Election was and is for the reasons set forth in the premises, null and of none effect to all intents and purposes whatsoever: That the great partiality and the illegal and improper conduct of Magloire Parent, Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish of St. Sylvestre, and of Edouard Noël, Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish of Ste. Agathe, in favor of the said John O'Farrell, having prevented the election of the Petitioner; the said Magloire Parent, as such Returning Officer for the said Parish of St. Sylvestre, having taken, written down, and inscribed

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in the Poll Books of the said Parish of St. Sylvestre, at the said Election, as electors and voters for the said John O'Farrell, a large number of names, to wit: nine hundred and more, persons not qualified to vote as such electors, and also of persons who were not present at the said Poll-house, but who, on the contrary, were absent from the said Parish at the time of the said Election, and also of deceased persons, and of persons and names that never existed; and the said Edouard Noël, as such Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish of Ste. Agathe, having received, written down, and inscribed in the Poll Books of the said Parish of Ste. Agathe, at the said Election as electors and voters for the said John O'Farrell, a great number of names, to wit: two hundred names, of persons not qualified to vote as such electors, and of persons who were not present at the said Polling-house, but who, on the contrary, were absent from the said Parish at the time of the said Election, and of persons deceased, and of persons and names that never existed; that the said John O'Farrell himself, his agents, friends, leaders, partizans and others, in his name, made use of corrupt and menacing means to induce persons having or claiming to have the right to vote at the said Election, to vote for the said John O'Farrell, or to prevent such persons from giving their votes in favor of the Petitioner; that the Return of the said John O'Farrell was effected by virtue of the said illegal and corrupt practices, which have rendered and do render the said Election and Return of the said John O'Farrell altogether null and of none effect; and praying that the House will be pleased to take into consideration the above allegations and to decide and declare that the said John O'Farrell was not duly elected and that the Petitioner was duly elected and should have been returned as Member to serve in Parliament for the said County of Lotbinière; and to order that the name of the said John O'Farrell be erased from the Return made by the Returning Officer for the said County, of the said John O'Farrell, and that the name of the Petitioner be inserted in the place and stead of the said John O'Farrell, and otherwise to do justice to the Petitioner as to the House shall seem expedient.

Of Hammond Gowen Hall, of the Township of Leeds, County of Megantic; praying for the payment of a certain amount, being expenses and loss incurred by him in attending as a Witness before an Election Committee of the House, in compliance with a summons requiring the same.

Of Daniel Anderson, of the Township of South Dumfries, in the East Riding of the County of Brant, Esquire, and others, Electors of the said East Riding of the said County; setting forth: That at the late Election in and for the East



Riding of the County of Brant, of one Member to represent the same in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, which Election was opened and commenced at Capron's Flats, at the Village of Paris, in the said East Riding, on the thirteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, being the nomination day appointed for the said Election, Daniel McKerlie, of the Town of Brantford, in the said County of Brant, Esquire, and David Christie, of the Township of South Dumfries, in the said East Riding of the County of Brant, Esquire, were the Candidates; that at the said Election a Poll was demanded on the part and behalf of the said Daniel McKerlie, that the same was granted and proceeded with, and that on the close of the said Election, to wit: on the twenty-second day of the said month of July last, the said Candidate, Daniel McKerlie, Esquire, was declared returned as duly elected to represent the said East Riding of the County of Brant in the present Parliament of this Province, and received an Indenture to that effect from John Smith, Esquire, the Returning Officer at the said Election; that the number of votes polled at the said Election was five hundred and thirty-seven, of which two hundred and sixty-nine were for the said Candidate, Daniel McKerlie, and two hundred and sixty-eight for the said Candidate, David Christie, thereby making and leaving a majority of one in favor of the said Daniel McKerlie, as by the Poll Books taken and kept at the said Election, and returned to the Clerk of

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the Crown in Chancery with the said Writ of Election, by the said Returning Officer of the said East Riding of the County of Brant, reference being thereunto had will more fully and at large appear: That the Petitioners' duly qualified electors of the said East Riding of the County of Brant at the said Election, having voted thereat, and still being electors of the said Riding, conceive and are advised and convinced, and do aver, that the said Daniel McKerlie was not duly and lawfully elected and chosen, and was unduly and unlawfully returned to represent the said East Riding of the County of Brant in the said Parliament, for and on account of the grounds, causes, and reasons herein after contained, mentioned, and set forth, that is to say: Because a large majority of legal voters was recorded and given at the said Election for and in favor of the said Candidate, David Christie, Esquire; because the said majority of the said Daniel McKerlie, and a large number over the same, to wit: one hundred and more, was only a colorable majority, and was composed of persons not entitled to vote at the said Election; because one hundred of the votes and upwards which purport to have been given and recorded as legal votes for and on behalf of the said Daniel McKerlie, were those of persons who were not possessed at the time of giving their votes at the said Election, for their own use and benefit as proprietors, by virtue of any legal title vesting such property in them, either in fee simple or in freehold under the tenure of free and common soccage, or in fief, or in roture or in franc-aleu or by virtue of a Certificate derived under the authority of the Governor in Council of the late Province of Quebec, or by virtue of any Act or Acts of the Legislature of either the late Provinces of Upper or Lower Canada, or of the Legislature of Canada, of lands or tenements lying and being in the said East Riding of the County of Brant, on which the said one hundred voters gave their votes respectively, and being of the clear yearly value of forty-four shillings and five pence and one farthing currency, to wit: the currency set forth in the Statute in that behalf, equal to forty shillings sterling, or upwards, over and above all rents and charges payable out of or in respect of the same; and because such last mentioned voters were not at the time of giving such their votes at the said Election, and had not been in actual and uninterrupted possession of the lands and tenements upon which they claimed and pretended to be entitled to vote as proprietors, according

to the true intent and meaning of the Statute in that behalf, or in receipt of the rents and profits thereof as proprietors as aforesaid, according to the same true intent and meaning, by virtue of and under such title as aforesaid for their own use and benefit, severally and respectively during at least six calendar months next before the date of Her Majesty's Writ of Election for the said Riding, the Petitioners declaring and averring that the said lands and tenements upon which the said last mentioned voters claimed and pretended to be entitled to vote as aforesaid, had not come to them nor to any of them by descent or inheritance, or by devise, marriage or contract of marriage, nor did they or any of them have or hold any deed of conveyance or Patent from the Crown under which they or any of the said last mentioned voters respectively claimed to hold the lands upon which they so voted, and claimed and pretended to be entitled to vote as aforesaid, which was registered three calendar months before the date of the said Writ of Election for the said Riding, as required by the Statute in that behalf, nor were they or any of them entitled to vote at the said Election upon the lands and tenements upon which they so voted and claimed to vote as aforesaid by virtue of any conveyance made to his or their wife or wives after marriage, such conveyance having been registered for three calendar months as aforesaid; nor were they or any of them in possession of such lands and tenements mentioned in any such conveyance or deed for six calendar months next before the date of the said Writ of Election: That a very great proportion of the persons who voted at the said Election were not freeholders; that the lands on which they voted at the said Election were vested in the Crown, no Patents having ever

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issued therefor; that many of the persons who voted at the said Election for the said Daniel McKerlie were not entitled to vote at the said Election, inasmuch as they were not British subjects by birth or naturalization: and praying that the House will be pleased to take the premises into consideration, and to find and declare for the reasons, grounds and clauses aforesaid, that the said Daniel McKerlie was not duly elected and returned, and that the said David Christie was duly elected and ought to have been returned as the Member to serve in Parliament for the said East Riding of the County of Brant, and order that the name of the said Daniel McKerlie be erased from the Return made of the said Daniel McKerlie by the Returning Officer of the said East Riding of the County of Brant, and the name of the said David Christie inserted in the room, place and stead of the name of the said Daniel McKerlie, and to grant unto the Petitioners such other and further relief in the premises, as to the House shall seem meet and proper.

Of the Right Reverend the Bishop of Montreal, and others of the Parish of St. Louis de Terrebonne interested in the College Masson; praying for an Act of Incorporation, under the name of the Corporation of the College Masson.

Of the Reverend J.T. Th  berge and others, of the Parish of Terrebonne; praying for aid in behalf of the College Masson.

Of Nathaniel Jenks, M.D., and others, of the Township of Barnston; praying for aid in behalf of the High School established in the said Township.

Of the President and Directors of the City Bank of Montreal; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize them to increase the Shares of the said Bank to twenty pounds each, and also to increase the Capital Stock thereof.

Of C.A.G. de Tonnancour, Coroner of the District of St. Francis; representing that he filled the said office from the year 1831 to 1839, without receiving any salary, and that at the last date a salary of fifty pounds per annum, was attached to the said office; and praying that he may be paid at the same rate for the eight years during which he performed the duties previous to the salary being allowed.



Of the Municipal Council of the County of Sherbrooke; praying that the Municipal Councils may be authorized to regulate and control the issuing of Shop Licenses for the sale of Wines and Spirituous Liquors.

Of the Reverend G. Werner and others, of the City of Montreal, praying for an Act of Incorporation, under the name of the German Evangelical Church.

Of George Okill Stuart, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, Advocate; setting forth: That under and in virtue of Her Majesty's Writ of Election, bearing date at the City of Quebec, on the twenty-third day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, issued for the Election of three Members to represent the said City in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, an Election was opened and begun in the said City of Quebec, on the fourteenth day of July, in the said year, being the nomination day for the said Election, by William Smith Sewell, Esquire, Sheriff of the District of Quebec, being and acting as the Returning Officer of the said Election, and that Jean Blanchet, of the said City of Quebec, Physician and Surgeon, Charles Alleyn, of the same place, Advocate, Jean Chabot, of the same place, Esquire, Advocate, Commissioner of Public Works, George Honoré Simard, and Hypolite Dubord, both of the same place, Merchants, and the Petitioner, were Candidates; that the said William Smith Sewell, Returning Officer as aforesaid, has returned the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, as having been duly elected at the said Election, and the Petitioner claims the right to have been returned at the said Election as a Member for the said City: That by an Act of the Legislature of this Province, passed in the seventh year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for better securing the independence of the Legislative Assembly of this Province," in the first Section thereof, it is enacted "that from and after the end of the then

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present Parliament, all and every the persons or public officers thereafter mentioned and described in that Section should be incapable of and disqualified from being elected or returned to be Members of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, nor should any such person or persons, or public officer or officers, be competent to sit or vote in the said Legislative Assembly:" That among the persons mentioned and described in the said Section, are "all Physicians or Surgeons attending any Common Gaol, Penitentiary, Lunatic Asylum, Hospital or other Public Institution, and receiving annual salaries and allowances out of the Public Monies of the said Province:" That by the second Section of the said Statute, it is enacted "that if after the passing of the said Act any one of the persons or public officers mentioned and described in the foregoing Section and thereby disabled from sitting or voting or declared to be incompetent to sit or vote in the said Legislative Assembly of this Province, should nevertheless be elected or returned as a Member to serve in the said Legislative Assembly, either in the then present Parliament, or in any Parliament thereafter to be holden, his Election and Return should be and the same were thereby enacted and declared to be null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever:" That by a certain other Act of the Legislature of this Province, passed in the sixteenth year of Her Majesty's Reign, to amend the Act aforesaid, intituled, "An Act to amend the Act for better securing the independence of the Legislative Assembly of this Province," it is enacted "that no person holding any office of emolument at the nomination of the Crown in this Province should, after the dissolution of the then present Parliament, be eligible as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of this Province:" That on the day of nomination aforesaid as well as before, continuing, and throughout the said Election, and thenceforward hitherto, the said Jean Blanchet was and now is a Physician and Surgeon attending a certain Public Institution or Hospital in this Province, known as the Marine Hospital, in or near the said



City of Quebec, and receiving an annual salary or allowance out of the Public Monies of the Province: That on the said day of nomination, as well as before, continuing, and throughout the said Election, and thenceforward hitherto, the said Jean Blanchet was and now is a person holding an office of emolument at the nomination of the Crown, to wit: that of Visiting Physician to a certain Hospital, to wit: the Marine and Emigrant Hospital at Quebec, to which there was and is attached an annual salary or allowance, payable out of the Public Monies of the Province, and which he, the said Jean Blanchet, has hitherto since his said appointment received: That the appointment of the said Jean Blanchet as Visiting Physician as aforesaid, was duly published and notified in the Canada Gazette, on the tenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and long before and at the time of the said Election and thence continuing hitherto, the said Jean Blanchet was and still is notoriously incapable of and disqualified from being elected or returned to be a Member of the Legislative Assembly of this Province; and was not and is not competent to sit or vote in the said Legislative Assembly, and was, all the time aforesaid, and still is notoriously ineligible as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of this Province: That the said Jean Blanchet has been returned by the said Returning Officer, together with the said Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, as the three Candidates having the largest number of votes to represent the said City in the said Legislative Assembly: That on the day fixed by the said Returning Officer for closing the said Election, to wit; on the twenty-fourth day of July aforesaid, at the City of Quebec aforesaid, the said Returning Officer proceeded to ascertain the state of the General Poll at the said Election, by counting and adding up from each Poll Book the total number of votes taken and recorded at the said Election in the whole of the said City and of the Banlieue, and it was thereupon then and there ascertained by the said Returning

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Officer, that the number of votes purporting to have been given and recorded for and on behalf of the said Charles Alleyn was two thousand four hundred and sixty-seven, that the number of those purporting to have been given and recorded in favor of the said Jean Chabot was two thousand four hundred and thirty-seven, that the number of those given and recorded in favor of the Petitioner was one thousand one hundred and eighty-seven, that the number of those given and received in favor of the said George Honoré Simard was one thousand one hundred and seventy-one, and that of those given and recorded in favor of the said Hypolite Dubord was one thousand one hundred and three: That notwithstanding that there was polled at the said Election in favor of the Petitioner the third largest number of votes, those polled for and in favor of the said Jean Blanchet being null and void, he, the said Jean Blanchet, was unduly and illegally proclaimed as being duly elected a Member to represent the said City in the said Legislative Assembly in the stead of the Petitioner: That for the reasons aforesaid the votes polled for the said Jean Blanchet at the said Election ought to be held for nought and declared to be illegal votes, and as such should be struck off from the Poll Books opened and kept at the said Election, and the Election and Return of the said Jean Blanchet declared to be null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever; and praying that the House will be pleased to take the premises into consideration and to find and declare that the said Jean Blanchet was at the time of the said Election incapable of and disqualified from being elected or returned to be a Member of the said Legislative Assembly, and incompetent to sit or vote in the said Legislative Assembly, and that his Election and Return be declared to be null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever, and that the House will further find and declare that the Petitioner was duly elected and ought to

have been returned as one of the Members to represent the said City as aforesaid, and thereupon that the House will direct the Return for the said City to be amended accordingly, by erasing therefrom the name of the said Jean Blanchet, and by inserting in the stead thereof the name of the Petitioner, and that the House will grant to the Petitioner such other and further relief in the premises as to the House shall seem meet.

Of the Reverend Antoine Gosselin and others, School Commissioners of the School District of St. Jean, Island of Orleans; praying aid for the establishment of an Academy therein.

Of John Sharples, Esquire, and others, the Committee of Management of the Congregation of Catholics of Quebec speaking the English language; praying for an Act of Incorporation.

Of La Banque du Peuple; praying for an increase of their Capital Stock.

Of the Montreal and Bytown Railway Company; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of A.T. McCord and others, members and friends of the Upper Canada Religious Tract and Book Society; praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate the said Society.

Of L.J. Moll and others, Directors of the Berthier Academy; praying for aid in behalf thereof.

Of B.H. Leprohon and others, School Commissioners for the Parish of St. Charles de L'Industrie, County of Joliette; praying for aid in behalf of the College established by the late Honorable B. Joliette.

Of M. Cr  peau and others, of the Parish of St. F  lix de Valois, District of Montreal; praying that so much of the said Parish as is now included within the Parish of Berthier may be detached therefrom, and that the whole of the said Parish may be included within the County of Joliette.

Of George Southwick, Esquire, and others; praying an Act of Incorporation for the construction of a Railway from the Detroit River, at or near Amherstburg, to the Niagara River.

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Of Robert Christie, Esquire, a Candidate at the recent Election of a Member to represent in the House the County of Gasp  ; setting forth: That deeming it a public duty the Petitioner owes the House, and to the Country, he submits the following to its consideration, for such action thereupon as in its wisdom shall seem fitting to maintain and preserve the freedom and purity of Elections, as well as the independence and dignity of the House, as Representatives of the People of this Province, against the artifice and intrigues of officials, who, by the means and abuse of their offices, and by fraud and surprise, may unduly secure their election as Members of the House, obtrude themselves upon it as duly elected, and contrary to law and justice, obtain seats therein, and sit and vote for an indefinite period, in contempt and defiance of the laws and of the independence of the House: That the Petitioner actuated solely by the aforesaid motive of duty, accordingly begs to put the House in possession of the following facts: At the date of the dissolution of the last Parliament, in the month of June last, the Registrar of the County of Gasp  , Peter Winter, Esquire, and as such ex officio the Returning Officer for the County of Gasp  , was in the City of Quebec, received the Writ of Election for the said County, and proceeded with it thither: That shortly after his arrival at the County, he issued the usual Proclamation, as by law prescribed for the election of a person to represent the said County in the House, dated at Perc  , the 3rd July, 1854, fixing the twenty-seventh day of the same month for the day of Election, and in case that a Poll should be demanded, the twelfth and fourteenth days of August, the days for polling the votes, and which is as followeth:--"Proclamation, County of Gasp  , to wit:



Public notice is hereby given to the Electors of the County of Gaspé, that in obedience to Her Majesty's Writ to me directed, and bearing date the twenty-third day of the month of June last, I require the presence of the said Electors at the County Town of Percé, in the said County, on the ground attached to the Court Hall thereof, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of July instant, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of electing a person to represent them in the Legislative Assembly of this Province; and that in case a Poll shall be demanded and allowed in the manner by law prescribed, such Poll will be opened on the twelfth and fourteenth days of the month of August next, in each of the Townships of Newport, Percé, Malbay, Douglas, Gaspé South, Cap-des-Rosiers, Fox, Cap-Chat, York and Haldimand united, Gaspé North and Sydenham united, Seigniories Ste. Anne des Monts, Grand Pabos, and Grand River; and in the Magdalen Islands at Amherst Harbour and House Harbour. Of all of which every person is hereby required to take notice and to govern himself accordingly. Given under my hand at Percé, this third day "of the month of July, in the year 1854, P. Winter, Returning Officer:" That in pursuance of this notice the several Deputy Returning Officers, and Poll Clerks, or necessary subordinates, were appointed for the different localities where by law Polls were to be opened and held. That in the mean time the said Peter Winter had, it seems, made up his mind to offer himself as a Candidate at the Election, and on the twenty-first of July accordingly issued an address to the Electors of Gaspé, in print, dated 21st July, 1854, as followeth:--"Electors of the County of Gaspé. Being requested by a great number of yourselves, particularly from Point Maquereau to this, to allow myself to be nominated as one of the Candidates at the approaching Election, and finding that the general feeling is favorable, I have made up my mind to resign my offices of Registrar and Inspector of Schools, and to tender my services; if elected, my undivided attention will be given to the following: General reform of all abuses, whether of a local nature or affecting the Province and its Government. Improvements in our Public and Educational Institutions--Public Works, Roads and Bridges, and to that end, advocate our rights to a better share of the public revenue. Promote by every means in my power, the ends proposed by the Treaty lately entered

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into between Great Britain and the United States, so that Reciprocity and Free Trade may reach this District entire and unshackled. This above all should be attended to; it will enhance the value of property, introduce capital and new branches of industry, and among other advantages, encourage our Lumber trade, and also the Herring and Mackerel Fisheries, hitherto but little attended to, for want of Markets to sell them to advantage,--whereas now, the Ports and Markets of the United States are to be opened to us free from the twenty per cent Duty hitherto imposed upon our Fish, and on the same footing with their own Citizens. The advantages to be derived therefrom are incalculable, provided Trade be free and unshackled. It is a question of life or death for Gaspé. Its fate will be in the hands of its Representatives in Parliament. If favorable to Free Trade, and energetic, this part of Canada will rise in value, wealth and importance, together with the spirit and industry of its people. If, on the contrary, our Representatives are opposed to or interested against Free Trade, or even careless respecting it, then the inhabitants of Gaspé must be doomed to continual misery and discontent,--in fact, to be slaves with the name of freemen. Now is the time then, for the people of Gaspé to rise as one man to vindicate their rights and say whether they will be free--let them beware of false friends, or perhaps enemies cloaking themselves as friends; their tame confidence has too oftentimes been abused and disappointed, it is therefore high time that they act by themselves and for themselves. We have never had such an opportunity of bettering our



condition. Let us therefore be alive, united, and bear in mind that the result of the approaching contest will decide our fate for better or for worse! Of the Candidates who have come forward claiming the suffrages of the people, none have condescended to express their feelings and expose their views to their intended constituency, as if the electors were mere tools and had not the right to claim some information in this respect. It is according to the old custom in Gaspé, where the wishes of the people were but little cared for, and would yet be admitted as all right, if the Representatives were to continue the careless lords and masters, instead of being the servants of the people,--but my hope is, that with the help of God, their eyes will at last be opened, and that the people of Gaspé will assert their right of franchise as freemen should, by fearlessly voting after due consideration of the merits and views of the Candidates, irrespective of any private feeling; for who can boast of having no personal enemy, or that none are, from some cause or other, prejudiced against him? Should the like be a bar between an elector and myself, I would say to him, that when the fate or our common Country is at stake, we should forget personal animosities and fight side by side for the good of the land we live in,--does it not deserve some sacrifice?--I shew the example by renouncing the situations whereby my family is maintained; because I feel, in this critical moment, that some one must step forward, even at his peril, to secure the great advantages now offered us--hoping that such sacrifice shall not be in vain. Should I succeed in so doing, my loss will only be momentary, for if the Country is made to thrive and be prosperous, my family will also thrive and be prosperous. Let then 'Reciprocity and Free Trade,' as free as the winds, be our motto: Let us join hand and heart in forwarding that desirable end, and Gaspé will rise in reputation, industry and wealth, as high and as brilliant as any other part of the 'brightest gem in the British Crown,' our noble Canada! Praying your support at the approaching contest, I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant, P. Winter.--Percé, 21st July, 1854." Giving out by it that being requested by a large number of Electors to offer himself, he had resigned his employs of Registrar of the County as well as Inspector of Schools, in order to offer his services to the County: That the said Mr. Winter, pursuant to this address, accordingly did offer himself as a Candidate at the said Election (at which John LeBoutillier, Esquire, and the Petitioner were also Candidates,) and received a large number

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of votes, but failed in his Election, the majority being in favor of Mr. LeBoutillier, who, as the Petitioner is informed, is returned, or is so to be, a Member of the House, by a Deputy Returning Officer nominated by the said Peter Winter previous to divesting himself of his office of Returning Officer for the said County of Gaspé, the legality of all which it will be for the House to scrutinize and determine: That the Petitioner has in the above strictly confined himself to matters of fact founded upon official and other documents that are not to be contested, refraining from all commentary and reflections upon the novel and extraordinary course the Returning Officer, Mr. Winter, has been advised to take, and which, as a matter of privilege, affecting the independence and character of the House, it is its peculiar province to examine and deliberate upon, and which accordingly is submitted from a sense of duty and respect to the House by the Petitioner; and praying the House will take such steps in reference thereto, as to right and justice towards the public shall belong, as well as to prevent the matter alluded to from being drawn into precedent hereafter.

Ordered, That the said Petition be printed for the use of the Members of this House.

Ordered, That the Petition of the Canadian Institute of Toronto, and the

*Petition of George K. Chisholm, Esquire, be printed for the use of the Members of this House.*

*Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Cameron have leave to bring in a Bill for the better administration of the Estate of deceased persons.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday the twenty-sixth instant.*

MR. CAMERON ... introduced a bill "for the relief of merchants, traders and others." Mr. C. explained that the bill did not propose to revive the bankrupt law, for the voice of the country had, he regretted to say, been unequivocally expressed against that measure, it was only designed to facilitate in some respects arrangements between debtors and creditors. He then briefly explained the provisions of the bill.<sup>1</sup>

MR. CARTIER inquired if the bill applied to Upper Canada alone, or was for the United Province.<sup>2</sup>

MR. CAMERON replied that he should like all the bills he introduced to apply to the whole Province, but, not knowing what Lower Canada wanted on this subject, he had framed the bill so as to apply to Upper Canada alone.<sup>3</sup>

MR. CARTIER had voted for the repeal of the bankrupt law, but he was now perfectly certain that the prevailing sentiment in the commercial community of Montreal, and Lower Canada generally was in favor of some bankrupt law, although the late law had been universally unpopular. (Hear, hear.) He was therefore glad of the introduction of the bill and hoped it would be so modified in committee as to adapt it to both sections of the Province. The opposition to the late bankrupt law was due not so much to its principle as to its details.<sup>4</sup>

MR. BROWN agreed with the honorable member for Vercheres, and was quite sure that he had expressed the views of the merchants of Upper Canada as well as of Lower Canada. It was certainly a great evil in a country like this that there were no means of securing an equitable division of the property of bankrupt persons, or of relieving the honest debtor from the road of debt which misfortune might have entailed on him. He was quite sure that the prejudice which existed against the late bankrupt law grew out of the details of the measure only. That law was used as a means of applying the screws to honest debtors. He hoped the suggestion of the honorable member for Vercheres would be adopted and that the bill would be so modified as to adapt it to both sections of the Province. The commercial intercourse between the two sections was so great that it was important to have a uniform law.<sup>5</sup>

MR. YOUNG confirmed Mr. Cartier's statement that the commercial community of Montreal were much opposed to the late bankrupt law; but he thought such a bill as that now introduced would meet their wishes and he hoped its provisions would be extended to Lower Canada.<sup>6</sup>

MR. CAMERON pointed out that the bill would require some modifications to make it applicable to Lower Canada. He should however be happy to unite with gentlemen from Lower Canada in making the necessary alterations.<sup>7</sup>

MR. GAMBLE concurred in the opinion that it was the desire of the mercantile community of the country to have a bankrupt law divested of the objectionable features of the late law and believed a measure of this kind would be hailed with universal satisfaction.<sup>8</sup>

MESSRS. DEWITT, A. DORION, and J.S. MACDONALD, of Glengarry, expressed

the belief that the last Bankrupt law had been the source of a great deal of immorality.<sup>9</sup>

MR. A. DORION, of Montreal, said that the great objection to the late bankrupt law was the complications of its provisions. That made it universally unpopular amongst the mercantile community of Montreal. There would be considerable difficulty in framing a law that would be generally acceptable but he had no objection to seeing the attempt made.<sup>10</sup>

MR. DEWITT thought the law should be made applicable to both sections of the Province. He was in favor of the debtor's property being divided equally among the creditors and would be prepared to express his views on the subject at length when the bill came up for discussion.<sup>11</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD, of Glengarry, had no objection to the introduction of the bill, but he thought it strange that if, as gentlemen represented, it was the general wish of the mercantile community that a bankrupt law should be enacted, no notice of it had been taken by the public press.<sup>12</sup>

MR. CARTIER replied that the gentleman would find the subject alluded to in the last report of the Montreal Board of Trade.<sup>13</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD had not seen that document, but he thought it strange that the public press, generally so prompt to express public opinion, had not given expression to what was represented to be the universal wish of the mercantile community on this subject. He knew that the late law was universally unpopular, owing, perhaps, to the inefficiency of those who had the execution of it--the Judges of County Courts, who had not learning or ability enough to understand its provisions. Mr. McD. also referred to the fact that bankrupt laws had been universally repudiated in the United States.<sup>14</sup>

MR. YOUNG called Mr. McD.'s attention to the fact that the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade had memorialised the House on this very subject.<sup>15</sup>

(44)

*Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Cameron have leave to bring in a Bill for the relief of Merchants, Traders, and others.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday the twenty-sixth instant.*

*On motion of Mr. Bureau, seconded by Mr. DeWitt,*

*Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before this House, copies of all Papers, Petitions, Letters and Correspondence in the possession of the Executive Government, relative to a tract of land in dispute between the Inhabitants of Russeltown and the Seignior of the Seignior of Beauharnois, and also copies of the Titles of concession and of commutation of the said Seignior.*

*Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.*

*On motion of Mr. Mackenzie, seconded by Mr. Sidney Smith,*

*Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying him to cause to be laid before this House, a Schedule containing the names of all defaulters to the Government of Canada, and to the late Governments of Upper and Lower Canada, including all balances from Public Accountants, past, due and unpaid, whether payable to the Consolidated Fund, or to any special*



*Fund, with the sums they respectively owe, the names of their sureties, and the amount for which such sureties are severally or jointly responsible,--the said Return to be made up to 31st of January last.*

(45)

*Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Mackenzie have leave to bring in a Bill to exempt the tools or implements of any Debtor's trade or calling, and the wearing apparel, the bedding and other furniture necessary for the use of his family, from seizure and sale under execution for debt.*

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.*

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN moved that a Select Committee of eleven members be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by the House; and that the said Committee be composed of Mr. DeWitt, the Hon. Mr. Hincks, the Hon. Mr. Macdonald, of Glengary, the Hon. Mr. Cameron, Mr. Lemieux, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Cauchon, Mr. Hartman, Mr. Dorion, of Montreal, Mr. Felton, Mr. Patrick, Mr. Wright, and the mover.<sup>16</sup>

MR. BROWN thought that the proposed committee was as fair a one as had ever been brought before the House for this purpose. He had no objection to it whatever upon that ground, but he thought this mode of appointing the committee incorrect in principle. (Hear, hear.) It placed in the hands of the government a power of nominating committees of their own choice, which was highly inexpedient. The result of this practice in the last Parliament, was, that the committees were filled with the supporters of the government, and due expression was not given to the views of the House. Take, for instance, the Railroad Committee; that committee was composed of gentlemen from along one particular line, and every one knew long before the Grand Trunk Railway question came up, what would be the result. He thought a committee of this importance ought to be chosen by the House.<sup>17</sup>

MR. FOLEY concurred in the remarks made by the honorable member for Lambton, and called attention to the fact that the committee proposed by Mr. Morin did not include a single member from the country west of Hamilton.<sup>18</sup>

MR. CAUCHON said that they were not now appointing a railroad committee, in which localities were important.<sup>19</sup>

DR. FRAZER thought it would be much juster and more appropriate, that the House should appoint its own committees.<sup>20</sup>

MR. CAMERON thought it absolutely necessary, under the system of responsible government, that the committees should be named by the government.<sup>21</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE protested against any such doctrine. Only think (he said) of a government spending seven millions of pounds, and then appointing a committee to audit its accounts. He commented severely and sarcastically on the composition of the auditing committee of the last House, and particularly on the fact, that Mr. George Wright was placed on it. He had asked the Inspector General to put him (Mr. M.) on that committee, but that gentleman declined to do it until the last session, (if it was a session), when it had been

determined to turn the House to the right abouts.<sup>22</sup>

The debate was continued for some time longer, and ultimately the government consented to alter the composition of the committee so as to give the opposition a fairer representation on it, and then, MR. BROWN and his friends waived their opposition (although still maintaining that the principle of allowing the government to appoint the committees was incorrect), and Mr. Morin's motion, as modified was agreed to.<sup>23</sup>

(45)

*Resolved*, That a Select Committee of thirteen Members be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this House; and that the said Committee be composed of the Honorable Mr. Morin, Mr. DeWitt, the Honorable Mr. Hincks, the Honorable John Sandfield Macdonald, the Honorable Mr. Cameron, Mr. Lemieux, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Cauchon, the Honorable Mr. Merritt, Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion, Mr. Felton, Mr. Southwick, and Mr. Wright.

The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate upon the Question which was on Wednesday last proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his Speech pronounced from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:

That we thank His Excellency for the satisfaction expressed by him at meeting the Legislature, and that we believe, with His Excellency, that the increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has hitherto existed for the due Representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province:

To assure His Excellency that we will give our best consideration to the subjects of great magnitude and importance which will necessarily come under our consideration during the Session which is now commencing:

That we, in view of the two Acts which the Imperial Parliament, advancing with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed, feels the grave responsibilities thereby imposed on the Canadian Legislature:

That as to the one of these Acts which empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council, although the substitution of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown in the appointment of Members of that body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience, as Parliamentary Government and Ministerial Responsibility in the British sense of the term are for the most part unknown to the Constitution of Countries where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers, we think that in order to give to that important Branch of the Legislature the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some change in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required; and we trust that the difficulties to which His Excellency has referred will be surmounted by our endeavours, and by the patriotism of the Members of that Honorable Body:

That the other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada,

(46)

this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province,



we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion expressed upon it in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able, without difficulty, to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction:

That the condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interest both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada, having to look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighboring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals:

That we will consider the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions of Lower Canada, in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which since its introduction has contributed so materially to the prosperity of Upper Canada; and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. The other subjects of importance upon which measures may be submitted for our deliberation, will be also attentively considered:

That the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, when laid before us, will receive our best attention, and that His Excellency may rely on our readiness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service:

That our attention will be called to the prosperous condition of the Revenue as affording an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect Raw Materials employed in Ship-building and other branches of manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others, to which Articles entering largely into the consumption of the People are now subject:

That we will be glad to receive Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's Subjects in British North America on the one hand, and of the Citizens of the United States on the other, and we will consider the propriety of amending the Act past in eighteen hundred and forty-nine, for the free admission into Canada of certain Articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty:

That we learn with satisfaction that the Government and Congress of the United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and that we are disposed to meet them by a corresponding spirit:

That it is our hope that the removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada into the markets of the United States, will have a tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province;

And the Question being again proposed:--The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

MR. LANGTON ... said that the question before the House was one of a very simple character, and in regard to which they were all agreed; but, nevertheless, gentlemen on all sides had availed themselves of this opportunity to express their views upon almost every conceivable question.<sup>24</sup> The irrelevancy of the



discussion on previous evenings ... had been carried to a ridiculous length.<sup>25</sup> The honourable member for Montreal (Mr. Dorion) had stated in full his political creed. The venerable member for Norfolk (Dr. Rolph) had given the House a long and labored dissertation (sic) on constitutional law, and a gentleman who spoke in French last night made a long oration about the circuit court of the county of Terrebonne. (A laugh.)<sup>26</sup> He wanted to know what the local affairs of the county of Terrebonne, which had been lugged into the debate by Mr. Prevost, had to do with the motion before the House.<sup>27</sup> Another gentleman who spoke also in French, had thought it a fit opportunity to express his doubts as to the religious principles of the honourable member for L'Assomption. (Mr. Papin.) (Laughter.) He (Mr. L.) should follow the [e]xample thus set and avail himself of this opportunity to express his views on the present position of affairs in the House and the country. All must perceive that the House was in a transition state; fermentation was going on, the result of which would be the fusion of the various elements into new combinations.--This state of things was already producing some strange political affinities. The honourable members for Haldimand and Norfolk (Messrs. Mackenzie and Rolph,) seemed to have renewed that political amity which existed between them many years ago. (Hear, hear.) Doubtless many gentlemen must feel that they occupied peculiar positions. The honourable members for Victoria and West Northumberland (Messrs. Smith) must be a little astonished to find themselves under the lead of Sir Allan MacNab and the members for North and South Wentworth, (Messrs. Spence and McKerlie) must be equally astonished to find themselves in deadly opposition to each other for no conceivable reason except that one was in the government and the other was out of it. (Hear, hear.) There could be no doubt that a great many of the old party landmarks were being gradually removed.<sup>28</sup> He declared his belief that the combination was a strong one. There was in it a breaking down of party lines to promote the progress of the country and carry into effect the necessary legislation which it demanded. The Clergy Reserves question would be settled by the new government, and that he believed sooner and in a more effectual manner than by the old one.<sup>29</sup> The universal feeling of the country was in favor of progress and when the Clergy Reserve question was once set at rest, it would be difficult to say who were conservatives and who were reformers. He trusted that when that vexed question was settled, men of all parties would be ready to unite and study, not so much party politics, as the good of the country. New parties had made their first appearance in this Parliament. They had all heard for some years past of the existence of a party in Lower Canada called the "Rouges," but this was the first time that party had made their appearance in the House, and whilst he could not entirely approve of all their principles, he congratulated the House on the great accession of talent it had received with that party. (Hear, hear.)<sup>30</sup> Another party they found too, not trammelled by party ties<sup>31</sup>--the "liberal conservatives" or "conservative liberals" had made almost their first appearance this session. With that party he (Mr. L.) particularly sympathized. They had always, to a certain extent, been identified with the old conservatives, and yet they were as liberal and progressive in their principles as any men in the country. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. L.) had belonged nominally to the conservative party during the last Parliament. He soon found, however, that he had few sympathies with that party, but for personal reasons he preferred to sit amongst them. Now, however, he no longer stood alone as the representative of the "liberal conservatives."<sup>32</sup> The object of that party was solely to promote the prosperity of the country and insist on sound legislation.<sup>33</sup> It was largely represented among the new members.--He did not arrogate to himself the leadership of that party, or pretend to speak for them, but still he believed that the opinions he was about to express were the

opinions of most, if not all, of those gentlemen. Had the principles of Sir A. MacNab remained what they were he could not have been looked upon as the leader of that section of the conservative party, but under present circumstances, he would be supported by those who otherwise could not have supported him.--(Hear, hear.) The liberal conservatives had made no sacrifice of principle.<sup>34</sup> Sir Allan McNab had come to them--they had not gone to him.<sup>35</sup> They stood now where they had always stood and there was no reason why they should refuse to pull together with those who were now prepared to carry out the measures they desired, and which the country had long desired. (Hear, hear.) He was, therefore inclined to give the new ministry a fair trial and to accord them a warm support, until such time as he might see signs of defalcation.--(Hear, hear.) He (Mr. L.) was not as a general thing, a friend to coalitions composed of discordant elements<sup>36</sup>. Coalitions were in themselves an evil; but it sometimes happened in some countries, as he believed it did then in this province, that they were a necessary evil.<sup>37</sup> Under present circumstances, he thought that no strong government could have been formed without some such coalition, and that the present coalition was the least objectionable that could have been formed. (Hear, hear.)<sup>38</sup> At any sacrifice the country now demanded a strong government.<sup>39</sup> He imputed no improper motives to Sir Allan and those who had acted with him, although he confessed that he should not himself have liked to adopt a similar course. (Hear, hear.) That, however, was no reason why he should refuse to accept from the hands of Sir Allan measures which the country demanded.<sup>40</sup> He had no doubt that the hon. gentlemen who had come over had acted conscientiously, and from a desire to promote the best interests of the country.--Their path was a difficult one, and was beset with dangers. Any swerving would ruin them, and in this the House had a guarantee for their pledges. He would not cast any obstacle in their way,--he wanted the great questions settled by this Government.<sup>41</sup> He believed the present ministry would carry a better measure for the settlement of the Clergy Reserve Question and carry it more speedily than the late ministry would have done. (Hear, hear.)<sup>42</sup> This government dare not do otherwise than give them a speedy secularization bill.<sup>43</sup> The late ministry delayed, on various plausible pretexts, taking any action on that question until the patience of the country was exhausted; and when they did introduce a bill, it was the most miserable measure for the settlement of a great question that was ever presented to any country.<sup>44</sup> The bill of the late ministry was a miserable abortion<sup>45</sup>. It was a measure justly characterized by the word "adjustment" used in His Excellency's speech. It was not a settlement of the question, but a rearrangement of the elements into rather a different shape, but leaving them nearly where they were before. (Hear.) The present ministry dare not do any thing of this kind. They must bring in a measure immediately, and it must be an unexceptionable one, because they know that if they fail to do it they would be hurled from power, never again to return to it. (Cheers.) He felt satisfied therefore, that the House would get from them a measure that would be satisfactory even to the gentleman from North York, (Mr. Hartman.) A statement had been made some evenings since, by the Attorney General East, from which it had been generally understood that the administration were prepared to endorse the whole policy of their predecessors. Now from what he (Mr. L.) knew of the members of the new administration, he felt no hesitation in saying that<sup>46</sup> while they had given pledge on certain questions<sup>47</sup>, there were certain questions in reference to which they had formed deliberate opinions before they left the opposition benches, which opinions he could not believe them to have changed.<sup>48</sup>

Loud cries of hear, hear, from the opposition benches.<sup>49</sup>

MR. LANGTON [continued:] He believed, for instance, that if the question



came up as to whether the dissolution of the late Parliament was a thoroughly constitutional act--a question of vital importance to the country--those gentlemen would be found standing by the opinions which they formerly entertained. (Hear, hear.) He believed, also, that they held opinions in reference to certain doctrines laid down by the late Inspector General relative to the propriety of public men dealing in<sup>50</sup> the public lands<sup>51</sup>, and other securities which their positions on the treasury benches would not induce them to change. (Hear, hear.) Believing this, he was prepared to give them a fair and candid hearing, and he would not allow himself to doubt their sincerity. Mr. Langton then proceeded to refer to the speech made by Dr. Rolph yesterday. He could not (he said) allow the extraordinary constitutional views put forward by that gentleman to pass unnoticed. That gentleman held a peculiar position in the House and the country. Thirty years ago he came to this country, and occupied a prominent position in its public affairs. All had heard of the extraordinary oratorical displays made by him in former days on the subject of the Clergy Reserves. He came here with a high and polished education, at a time when education was not very general in Canada. He brought with him an enviable fluency of speech, and power of framing harmonious periods. He assumed a prominent position before the country in connection with the Clergy Reserve question. He was regarded as a Burke in ornate eloquence, a Somers in constitutional lore, and a Hampden in the defence of liberty. A reputation of that kind was not to be lost in a day. In 1837 a cloud came over the brightness of the Hon. gentleman. At that time he fomented a rebellion which men of greater boldness had to bear the brunt of. He carried a flag of truce to the rebels, and at the same time gave them advice hardly appropriate to his ambassadorial character; (Hear, hear;) and the next day he exhibited to the Province the first specimen of those "dissolving views" which had since become somewhat celebrated. (Much laughter.) He absented himself from the Province for some years. The places that had known him, knew him no more. But some three years ago, the ministry, having lost much of its popularity, and feeling compelled to resort to some extraordinary measures to regain (*sic*) it, called that learned gentleman from his retirement, and tried to shelter themselves under the remnants of his good name--with what success let the press and the public opinion of the Province answer. (Hear, hear.) Still, although the learned member for Norfolk had "fallen from his high estate" of former days, he had a certain amount of fame in the country. His eloquence might not be suited to the present day, when a new and vigorous generation preferred deeds to high-sounding words and elegant periods. His zeal for reform had dwindled down into the introduction of a few unimportant measures, during the last Parliament, which, after being cut and carved by friends and foes, were finally passed in a much modified form, or withdrawn in despair. Nevertheless, there might still be some remote constituencies where the honorable gentleman might be looked up to with veneration, as a great constitutional authority, and for this reason only he (Mr. Langton) felt called upon to utter a few words in answer to the extraordinary constitutional positions assumed in the elaborate speech of yesterday. What was the doctrine laid down in that speech? He (Mr. L.) would not follow the honorable gentleman in his attack on the member for West Northumberland (Mr. Smith). That gentleman was, doubtless, well able to defend himself. Nor would he notice his attack upon Sir Allan MacNab. When Sir Allan returned to the House, he would be the last man to shrink from an encounter with the honorable member for Norfolk. (Hear, hear.) It was the honorable gentleman's constitutional doctrines he had now to deal with. The honorable gentleman laid down the doctrine that it was the duty of the minister to give advice to the crown--that it was the duty of



the late Inspector General, when he went to tender his resignation, to advise his Excellency as to the formation of a new government.<sup>52</sup> [The] Hon. member, Mr. Langton continued had a great reputation as a constitutional lawyer, but yet told them that it was necessary for the crown to seek the advice of a retiring minister as to the appointment of his suc[c]essor, together with some extraordinary story of the Duke of Wellington going down to Windsor to stop some petty expenditure on the castle.<sup>53</sup> It must be borne in mind, that there was a vast difference between a minister in the full exercise of power giving advice, and a minister on the point of resigning--who had sent in his resignation--tendering advice that was not asked. (Hear, hear.) Suppose for a moment, the Inspector General had tendered his advice, what would his Excellency have replied? He would have replied, "Mr. Hincks, I have a very great respect for your advice. For years you have been giving me good advice, and I have followed it because I believed that it was, not only your advice, but, the advice of the country. At that time, you had the confidence of the House and the country, but now you come and tender me advice, and in the same breath, tell me you have lost the confidence of the country." (Hear, hear.) Moreover, his Excellency might have questioned the honesty and disinterestedness of the advice, and whether it was not such as would advance the personal interests of the retiring minister, and promote his return to power as speedily as possible. (Hear, hear.)<sup>54</sup> That showed the absurdity of pretending that the crown was bound to take the advice of the retiring minister as [to] the appointment of his successor.<sup>55</sup> But the honorable member for Norfolk said further, that the Governor General must have some advice, that he could not act without advice. Now there was no point in the British constitution more thoroughly and distinctly understood (sic), than that when the Crown changed its ministers, it had an absolute power of choosing<sup>56</sup> its advisers how and where it pleased, untrammelled and uncontrolled<sup>57</sup>. (Cheers.) That was absolutely the only power the crown had without being dictated to. (Hear, hear.) And after all, it was no such great exercise of the Royal prerogative, for the choice of the crown was of no effect, unless the minister of his selection was approved by the people of the country, as represented in Parliament.<sup>58</sup> From the moment that the governor asked the assistance of Sir Allan MacNab, Sir Allan had the responsibility of the formation of the ministry and not the Governor. The attack which the hon. member made on his late colleague was extraordinary and it was most improper for the hon. member to bring the name of His Excellency on the floor of the House, most unwarranted for his late servant to do so. Further, why did not the honorable member give advice himself, if he considered the Governor in such a strait. He was a minister as well as the late Inspector General. If he considered such great wrong had been done, there was no excuse for his not having done so.<sup>59</sup> The honorable member for Norfolk had brought forward a long array of the names of persons the Governor might have sent for.<sup>60</sup> They were all those of respectable men but none of them had so large a following in the House as Sir Allan, whose name the honorable members (sic) had omitted from his list.<sup>61</sup> He (Mr. L.) thought that, under all the circumstances, the most natural course for the Governor General to pursue, was to send for Sir Allan MacNab. (Hear, hear.) Sir Allan was the ostensible leader of a party composed of 24 or 25 gentlemen in this house. There was no other section of the opposition that embraced so many members, or, at all events, the other sections were not sufficiently well drilled yet, for any one to be able to say who were their leaders. (Hear, hear.)<sup>62</sup> The honorable Mr. Morin it was true was at the head of a large number of members, but as minister he had lost the confidence of the House, and the Governor could not send for him. On the whole therefore he, (Mr. Langton) thought that the honorable member[']s high character as a constitutional lawyer was a great mistake. He admitted that the

reformers of the different sections were members, but their leaders had wide difference with each other, and many of the new men although talented had not parliamentary experience or position, and were not such as the Governor could send for. The attacks which that honorable member (Dr. Rolph) had made upon Sir Allan MacNab and colleagues, who were absent, they would be able to attend to on their return.<sup>63</sup> But he would not longer trespass on the time of the house. The constitutional arguments of the honorable member for Norfolk answered themselves. He (Mr. L.) thought that gentleman would no longer be looked up to as a great constitutional authority. In the practice of his profession, he might know something of the constitution of a patient, but, certainly his speech of yesterday proved most conclusively that he knew nothing of the constitution of Great Britain. (Loud cheers, and laughter.)<sup>64</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD of Glengary and DR. ROLPH rose simultaneously, but the former promptly gave way to the latter.<sup>65</sup>

DR. ROLPH said that after the personal attack that had been made upon him he desired to make some expla[na]tions.<sup>66</sup>

MR. LANGTON objected to the gentleman's being allowed to speak a second time at this stage of the debate. (Cries of Oh, oh.) At all events, if the honorable gentleman replied to him he hoped the House would allow him a rejoinder (A Voice, That's fair.)<sup>67</sup>

MR. BROWN could not believe that the House would refuse to the honorable member for Norfolk, an opportunity to reply to such a speech as they had just heard. (Loud cries of hear, hear.)<sup>68</sup>

MR. CAUCHON thought that if every member was allowed to reply to every attack that might be made on him, there would never be an end to the debate.<sup>69</sup>

MR. HINCKS said that if every member who was assailed in debates was allowed to reply, this discussion would continue for a month instead of ending, as he hoped it would, to-night.<sup>70</sup>

DR. ROLPH said that objection came ill from a man whose custom it was to speak twenty times on a debate, and who had received more indulgence in that respect than any other member on the floor.<sup>71</sup> The late honorable Inspector General was the last man who should have made such an objection, for during the last Parliament that honorable gentleman was always speaking in reply to every attack made upon him--indeed to such an extent did he carry it as to be highly injurious to the public interests. (Hear, hear.)<sup>72</sup>

MR. HINCKS said it was extraordinary for him to be told of that at that hour by the hon. member.<sup>73</sup> The honorable member for Norfolk seemed to forget that he was one of his (Mr. H's) colleagues at the time referred to. (Hear, hear.) If he (Mr. H) pursued a course as leader of the House, which was prejudicial to the public interests it was the duty of the honorable member to have informed him of it. (Hear, hear.)<sup>74</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE had never, in all his experience, seen the like of this proceeding. The idea of refusing to the oldest member of the House a courtesy that was invariably accorded in all legislative bodies! (Loud cries of "let him go on.")<sup>75</sup> It was extraordinary that after the personal attack that had been made on Dr. Rolph that objection should be made by any member to his replying; and it was most extraordinary that the objection should come from his late colleague-- (Cries [of] speak, speak, go on, go on) and--<sup>76</sup>

DR. ROLPH then took the floor and replied in a speech of more than an hour's



duration to Mr. Langton's remarks.... Dr. R. commenced by saying that if the honorable member for Peterboro had confined himself to the constitutional argument, he should have allowed his remarks to pass unnoticed, for that argument contained not one atom of law and hardly an atom of common sense; it was nothing but mere assertion. (Hear, hear.) But the honorable member had chosen to charge the late government with insincerity on the subject of the Clergy Reserves and to assail him (Dr. R.) personally and about matters which had no connection with the questions before the House.<sup>77</sup> He could not pass without notice the unwarrantable personal attack that had been made upon himself.<sup>78</sup> He (Dr. R.) came to this country, not 30 years ago, as the honorable member asserted, but upwards of 40 years ago. The honorable member was himself a new comer and although he had made a large fortune here, his speech showed that he was in utter ignorance of the past history of the country<sup>79</sup>, [and] of his (Dr. R.'s) history.<sup>80</sup> The speaker then went on to refer to the various important measures with which he had been connected in past times and to his consistent and unwavering advocacy and support of civil and religious liberty. He contrasted this course with the history of the member for Peterboro. That gentleman (he said) was elected to the last House as a tory, but, after a while, when he saw what was the strength of the tories, and heard it whispered about, that he himself might be available in a ministry, he cut the tories; he<sup>81</sup> changed his tactics and ceased to attend any of the tory caucases (sic) or meetings, and worked for his expected promotion.<sup>82</sup> (Hear, hear)--it was even said that he notified them that he wanted no further intercourse of that kind with them. (Hear, hear, and laughter,) and now when the reform party were out of power, the gentleman had resumed his tory garb and was to-day the servile supporter of a coalition ministry composed of the most discordant and incongruous materials. (Hear, hear.)<sup>83</sup> Such a man was a fitting one for the defender of the new combination--he could consistently enter it under either wing--he was a man of both parties.<sup>84</sup> He (Dr. R.) could point to a long political life of unflinching and unvarying fidelity to reform principles, but that member could not point to three months' honest adherence to the honorable principles of any party. (Cheers). The honorable member had thought proper, in an unmanly and ungenerous spirit, to refer to the events of 1837 and those dark days of conflict with despotism. To the occurrences of that period the newly arrived adventurer who represented Peterboro, was indebted for the liberties he now enjoyed. There were gentlemen upon this floor, whose names, were not supposed to be associated with these occurrences, who were in reality as deeply implicated in them as he (Dr. R.) was.<sup>85</sup>

Hear, hear, from MR. MACKENZIE.<sup>86</sup>

DR. ROLPH [continued:] The names of those gentlemen he had always kept inviolably secret, and they should remain so until the knowledge of their connection with those events could only cover them with glory. God forbid that he should ever deny his connection with those events.--(Cheers.) It secured for him a cordial welcome now wherever he went through the country--a welcome such as the gentleman from Peterboro would never obtain by the exercise of any talent he had yet displayed. (Hear, hear.) He (Dr. R.) had at that time, been driven into treason, not against the King, but against the tories<sup>87</sup> who misruled the country<sup>88</sup>, but for that act he had been pardoned by the Queen, and the people of Canada had showed their forgiveness of him by twice electing him to this House, and numerous constituencies had offered to elect him, besides the one he had the honour of representing. Dr. R., then, in reply to Mr. Langton's allusion to the flag of truce, referred in minute detail to the events of the day on which the rebels marched upon Toronto, and repelled the accusation that he had given any advice to those rebels whilst in charge of the flag of truce, or done anything



dishonorable or inconsistent with the position he had assumed in undertaking, at the request of the Governor, to carry the flag of truce to the insurgents.<sup>89</sup> He ... stated that his efforts had been solely to prevent the effusion of blood.<sup>90</sup> He then vindicated, at great length, his administration of the Crown Lands Department referred to the state of confusion in which he found that Department, and pointed to the many reforms he had introduced into it, and to a long list of measures which he had introduced and carried through Parliament. He admitted that these measures had been modified and that in preparing and perfecting them he had taken the advice of gentlemen on both sides of the House, but he contended that there was nothing unusual or improper in that course. The measures were his own, drawn by himself, and were not defeated or withdrawn. Recurring to the constitutional question, Dr. R. asked what reason the honorable member for Peterboro had given why the Governor General should send for Sir Allan McNab? The gentleman admitted that Sir Allan was the leader of only 24 or, at most, 25 members of that House, and were they to be told that it was a constitutional proceeding to send for a gentleman enjoying the confidence of only 25 members, in preference to gentlemen who enjoyed the confidence of twice twenty-five? (Hear, hear.)<sup>91</sup> It would cost the Queen her crown, if she were to attempt to govern by calling in to her aid the leader of a minority instead of a majority.<sup>92</sup> He put it to the House whether, when a Reform ministry lost the confidence of its own party, that party having an overwhelming majority in Parliament, it was not right on the face of it that some other reformer should be sent for rather than the leader of an insignificant minority? He laid that down as a broad constitutional principle, and was willing to leave it to the House and the country to decide whether he were right or wrong. He would take this ground whichever party he belonged to. He should be ashamed to take any other. He maintained that under the circumstances in which parties were placed, the constitutional mode of proceeding would have been to select advisers of the Crown from amongst those who could command a majority in the House. The Governor General had announced in his speech, that the opinion of the country had been "unequivocally (sic) expressed" upon the Clergy Reserve question. Ought he then, in selecting new advisers, to have sent for those who were the known opponents of the very measure in favor of which he himself declared the opinion of the country had been thus unequivocally expressed? (Hear, hear.) He declared his regret that the late Inspector General should have been guilty of conspiring with Sir Allan McNab to put down the party with which he had so long acted--the party which had sustained him from the time he entered the country, and had raised him from all his difficulties and embarrassments to the high position from which he had recently retired. The honorable member concluded his speech amidst loud cheers.<sup>93</sup>

MR. ROBINSON did not rise to question the value of the services rendered by the hon. member for Norfolk as Commissioner of Crown Lands, and the other offices recently held by him, the country would form its own estimate of them.--So far as his (Mr. R's) intercourse with that hon. gentleman went in any business he had to transact in the Crown Land Office for himself and for his friends, he fully admitted he had no reason to complain, and neither did he rise to come to the aid of the hon. gentleman for Peterboro, in the attack just made upon him by the hon. member for Norfolk.--The hon. gentleman was able to defend himself, and would not thank him probably should he interfere. He (Mr R) would not have risen but for some remarks made by the hon. member for Norfolk when adverting to his own conduct in the unhappy events of 1837--remarks that if quietly received by the house might be supposed to meet with its acquiescence. He (Mr. R.) for one could not allow them to go unnoticed. The hon. gentleman confesses that he was engaged in the events of that time, and says in being so he was not guilty of treason to

the Queen, but to the Tories whose government of the country in Sir Francis Head's time and his predecessors justified him, and thus in attempting to overthrow Her Majesty's authority in the Province. Now he (Mr. R.) emphatically denied that such was the case.<sup>94</sup> Such language was puerile and absurd, and he regretted to hear it.<sup>95</sup> If the hon. gentlemen (sic) was not guilty of Treason to His Sovereign why did he fly the country.--Surely the tories had no power to punish him for any offence against them and why did he not return to the country until the clemency of the Crown made it safe for him to do so. The hon. gentleman, gave a circumstantial account of his mission as an ambassador of peace, to the misguided men assembled at Montgomery's and asserts that his only object was to prevent the effusion of blood. Now he (Mr. R.) knew beyond question from persons now no more (from their connection with the events in question) that the hon. gentlemen (sic) after delivering the message with which he was charged he did advise them to come into the City that night, and if he (Mr. R.) remembered rightly, his hon. friend opposite the hon. member for Toronto, Sheriff Jarvis and others were fired upon very shortly after the delivery of his peace-making message. Other persons equally implicated had honestly confessed their gratitude to the government for the pardon extended to them and did not pretend to justify their conduct.<sup>96</sup>

MR. SCATCHERD deprecated these allusions to the unfortunate events of 1837, and hoped the House would hear no more of them. He had hoped this session would have gone by without the introduction of that standing topic in discussion.<sup>97</sup> It was as uncalled for as its tendency was mischievous.<sup>98</sup> Why refer to such questions now, when other and vitally important matters were engaging the attention of the House and the country? A ministry had just fallen, and a new ministry, composed of the most discordant elements, had been formed to succeed it. When they saw Sir Francis Hincks and Sir Allan MacNab fighting side by side, what must be the feeling of the country? (Laughter.) When such things were passing before them, he hoped no more would be said of the unfortunate occurrences of 1837. It was the duty of right-thinking men to endeavor to heal those wounds, and not to be always tearing them open and lacerating them afresh.--(Cheers.)<sup>99</sup> Why add anything to the excitement prevailing through the country caused by the combination?<sup>100</sup> He hoped they had heard the beginning and the end of it.<sup>101</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD (Glengarry,) commenced by expressing his regret that the honorable member for Peterboro had thought proper, in discussing a grave constitutional question, to refer to the "unfortunate occurrences" of 1837. It was peculiarly inappropriate for that honourable gentleman, in view of his present associations, to make such a reference. He ought to have remembered that by so doing he was wounding the feelings not only of the honourable gentleman who was the head and front of the party with which he had recently combined, but of a far larger number of gentlemen on his own side of the House than on the opposition benches. (Hear, hear). He (Mr. McD.) hoped there would be an end of these everlasting references to those events. They could accomplish no good and it was time they had done with them. What had the country seen? They had seen the honourable member for Norfolk (Dr. Rolph,) who had been the object of attack to-night, returning to this country under the amnesty granted by the Queen to him and others, and pursuing his profession quietly and peaceably with honour to himself and benefit to his fellow citizens. They had seen the prime minister of a government that had broken to pieces by its own unpopularity seeking an alliance with that honourable gentleman because his name was so venerated by the Reformers of Canada that in association with him they might still hope to carry on the government. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. McD.) something about the combinations of those days. He had been



taunted the other day by the late Inspector General with the part he took in those combinations.--That part he had taken under the direction of the late Inspector General, but he abandoned that gentleman because he was the first to suspect him of treachery. He left that government because public opinion was against it, and because it had then, as since, deceived the people and disappointed the best hopes of the country. The late Inspector General formed an alliance with the honourable member for Norfolk, because the Reform press of the country pointed to that gentleman as the only individual who could guide the Reform party, and because he hoped by such an alliance to be able to carry on the government<sup>102</sup>. Mr. Hincks was very glad to avail himself of Dr. Rolph's services in the last combinations, and only secured his election in Oxford on the strength of his name.<sup>103</sup> That alliance carried strength for a time only. The high handed acts of the late Inspector General brought disgrace on the administration, and it was then that the latter endeavored to dispose of that venerable and learned gentleman as treacherously as he had disposed of others.<sup>104</sup> It was unseemly for new combinationists now to insult him for his part in the events of 1837--and it was not prudent for them to do so--for a large portion of the people of Upper Canada respected him for the part he took at that time.<sup>105</sup> An important constituency had returned to Parliament the honourable member for Norfolk, and another gentleman who also figured prominently in the scenes which had been referred to. Were the people to be constantly insulted for the choice they had made of Representatives? When Mr. Mackenzie returned to Canada in 1849, he was elected to Parliament from the County of Haldimand on the first vacancy that had occurred in Upper Canada by an overwhelming majority in spite of the government influence that had been exerted to keep him out. The same honourable gentleman has twice since been re-elected for the same county. The people of the country reposed confidence in these gentlemen and they ought to be permitted to sit in this chamber and around the Council Board of His Excellency the Governor General without being exposed to these constant taunts and insults.<sup>106</sup> He trusted they would have no more of such allusions.<sup>107</sup> He was sorry, he repeated, for the attack which had been made upon the venerable member, for, so far as he knew, that gentleman had performed his duties whilst in office in a most becoming and praiseworthy manner. He was sorry too that the attack came from his honorable friend from Peterboro, for he always listened to that gentleman with pleasure, as one who generally addressed the House in a manner indicating an extensive acquaintance with the wants and requirements of this great country, and the House always benefited by his forcible arguments in the course of the debate.<sup>108</sup> He was sorry for the aspersions which had been cast upon Mr. Langton<sup>109</sup>. If he was compelled to find fault with a portion of the remarks of the honorable member for Peterboro to-night, he had, on the other hand, to thank him on behalf of the opposition, for the explanation he had given, and for contradicting the statement which had been made from the treasury benches that the new government had promised to adopt all the measures of the late administration. (Hear, hear.) The gentleman spoke no doubt by authority. Belonging as he did to neither party, he evidently possessed to a great extent, the confidence of both<sup>110</sup> sides of the coalition, and [he] was convinced that he would not have joined it, if he believed the new ministry had gone over to all the views and objects of the late ministry.<sup>111</sup> He was sure the gentleman had reliable information or he would not have made the explanation they had listened to to-night. He would not have spoken as he had done unless he had known that the conservative part of the administration would repudiate some of the measures of the late administration, whatever they might do with regard to others. (Hear, hear.) Thus then, the conservative party, through the member for Peterboro, repudiated the assertion made the other night by the Att'y General East, and repeated by the hon'ble member for Laprairie



(Mr. Loranger,) who declared, in speaking of the combination, that he could not receive it with enthusiasm, but that he acquies[c]ed in it, because it adopted the views, sentiments and measures of the late administration. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. McD.) had thought there was something significant in the silence maintained by the party to which Sir Allan McNab belonged. They sat by in silence and heard the statement made without contradicting it, that they had pledged themselves to make such an unexampled sacrifice. But to-night the honorable member for Peterboro rose and stated in their behalf that they did not acquiesce in the statement which had been made to the House. He (Mr. McD.) asked reformers to pause and consider whether they had not been sold. He had not the slightest hesitation in expressing his solemn conviction that they had been treacherously sold, and he would proceed to state the views he entertained of the combination and of the results which were to follow from it. Responsible government was never designed to accomplish what they had recently witnessed. It was never intended that responsible government should be made the means of continuing in office, men who had avowedly and unquestionably lost the confidence of the country. They should remain in office only just so long as they retained the confidence of the country and resign their places to others just so soon as they lost that confidence. But what had they lately witnessed? Before the late dissolution of Parliament there were unequivocal marks of dissatisfaction in the Reform ranks at the dilatoriness of those in power in reference to the great measures which the country demanded. Well, the House met after an adjournment of a year, and amendments to the address hostile to the administration were adopted. Charges of a very serious nature were brought against the administration. The honorable member for Kingston, (Mr. McDonald,) who had now gone over to the other side, and was to be the administration leader, stood up in his place in this House, and declared that the administration then in power were "steeped in infamy to their very lips," and that they were "tainted with corruption collectively and individually, both in their public and private characters." And yet within three months after, they found the gentleman who made use of that language, almost unparalleled in the annals of Parliament, amalgamating with the administration which he thus denounced! (Hear, hear.)<sup>112</sup> That gentlemen (*sic*) was seen united to those he had thus accused, without any investigation having taken place, to carry on the Government, no doubt for their own satisfaction, but not for that of any one else.<sup>113</sup> Could anything have happened which would have taken the people more by surprise? He (Mr. McD.) knew nothing of the charges which were made at that time, and since. He was not prepared to endorse or participate in them. But they were made, and made not only by the press, but on the floor of Parliament.--Well, the late Inspector General returned from England after the pompous parade of a public dinner; and as soon as he met the assembled wisdom of Canada, they told him they had no confidence in him. What did he then do? Did he resign and give the Governor General an opportunity to send for Sir Allan MacNab? There might have been some justification for it at that time, because Sir Allan's party were numerically stronger in proportion then than now. But no, he dissolved Parliament in order, as it was said, to stifle investigation into the charges which had been made against him in the hope that by Government interference and intimidation of the most disgraceful kind, such as was said to have been practised in the county of Missisquoi, and elsewhere, the Government might ensure the return of a sufficient number of their adherents to clear them from these charges.<sup>114</sup> He wished now, particularly to point out the position of ... [the conservative] party with regard to the charges already mentioned. He knew nothing of them himself; but the press of the Province, its public men, and many of the old supporters of the Government had been the loudest in making those charges, and he could not understand the course now taken by the conservative

leaders--by a gentleman who had addressed to the late ministry the most acrimonious speech he had ever heard--until those charges were satisfactorily answered.... The late ministry had tried to obtain a majority by the most unscrupulous use of executive patronage and influence<sup>115</sup>. They failed in that, and then it was to have been expected that they would have come into the House and pursued the manly, open, constitutional course pointed out by the honorable member for Norfolk. Instead of that, the honorable gentlemen demanded that an enquiry into the various charges should be stifled, banded together with the opposition who had made these charges against them--men who, from their first entrance into public life, had been opposed to all those measures which were dear to the Reform party. It was into the hands of such men that the affairs of the country were confided by the late Inspector General--an individual who had risen to his present political position, aye, to affluence, on the shoulders of the Reform party, and who owed every thing to that party. (Hear, hear.) This administration was formed at the bidding of the late Inspector General, and could only exist at his pleasure, for he had only to withdraw the support of his Upper Canada friends, and where would the administration be?<sup>116</sup> [It] must fall back upon the broken remains of the conservative party.<sup>117</sup> Who could have supposed that the time would have ever arrived when the gallant knight from Hamilton would seek an alliance with the Hon. member for Renfrew, and that his government rested solely on that support? In a course like this, the Inspector General was sustained by some of those from Upper Canada, who belonged to the old Reform party--men who would have been indignantly rejected by the people, had they dared to breathe his name at the polls, but who came down here and followed his lead after he had confessedly lost the confidence of the country. Was such an administration to be tolerated by the people of this country, under a system of Responsible Government?<sup>118</sup> Responsible government was intended to unite men to carry out all measures upon common principles; yet it now appeared that it was the intention--expressed commonly enough in conversation--to get from the Conservatives two or three important measures, and then to turn them out.<sup>119</sup> Ought an administration to exist for a day because certain measures are said to be in jeopardy? If such be the plea, dishonest politicians can retain power as at present, whilst actually representing the minority. Were the patronage and power of the government to be thus placed indirectly into the hands of a man who did not possess the confidence of the people? Mr. Macdonald then contended that the principle which Reformers so ardently desired to see established in our constitutional system, viz. that the Government should be carried on by men who had the confidence of the majority, and in whom faith and reliance could be reposed, had been most shamefully violated, by the recent movement on the part of those who, as it is notoriously known, do not represent the feelings and wishes of the people, though, perchance, on the floor of the House they may count upon a majority. It was said that he (Mr. McD.) was a disappointed man, and that he opposed the combination because he had no share in it himself. All he could say in reply to this was that he had had the honor of a seat in that House for nearly fourteen years, and that he defied any Government or combination to say that he ever truckled to it, ever offered his service or demanded to form part of any administration. If he would have truckled to the administration in the present crisis, there was no saying how matters might not have been accommodated; but whenever he was approached on the subject, he peremptorily declined to have anything to do with an administration in which he had no confidence, and which had forfeited the confidence of the country. Gentlemen on the other side said that they came here pledged to procure certain great measures, but was it ever supposed by the people who elected them that those measures were to be carried and the credit of them usurped by Sir Allan MacNab and his party? Threats were thrown out that if they refused to support the present administration there must be a new election. He, for one, was perfectly



willing to go before the country, because he felt confident that even if they succeeded in carrying a bill for the settlement of the Reserves question with the present administration, all the other great measures in which the people of the Province were interested would be thrown aside. He was convinced that this unholy alliance would have a most mischievous effect upon those great questions. The Conservative party had combined with the late administration upon that one question of the Reserves, and no other. The next great question that came up would lead to a difference of opinion, and then an appeal to the country would become necessary. Let not those Reformers who had aided the late Inspector General in this unholy alliance, and who still cling to him, expect that in the event of a new election their Conservative allies in their respective counties would elect them in preference to Conservatives. If they expected any thing of that kind they would find themselves mightily mistaken. The Conservatives would tell them they had deceived their own party, and were no longer to be trusted. Nobody questioned that there were a sufficient number of Reform members in the House to have formed an administration; because at most, the Conservatives only numbered 25 out of 130. Was it not then the duty of the late Inspector General to have made every effort to have healed the breaches in his own party, instead of throwing himself into the arms of the very antipodes of that party. (Ironical cries of hear, hear.) But that would not suit the late Inspector General's views. Determined, indeed, was he to punish the Reformers of Canada, because, forsooth, certain members refused to be dragged by him into the meshes of political turpitude. That gentleman had now actually more power and patronage at his command than when he sat on the treasury benches. (Hear, hear.) The new administration depended entirely for its existence on his support; and, consequently, all these charges of railroad speculations, Grand Trunk contracts, and other jobs, would of course be hushed up. (Hear, hear.) No one could question that. The President of the Grand Trunk railway, who had never been elected by a constituency, had been made Speaker of the Legislative Council; and every member of this House (sic) who had had anything to do with railway matters, had joined the late Inspector General in supporting the combination.<sup>120</sup>

Here there was a blank pause and some chuckling on the part of the House, the hon. member's attention having been attracted to Messrs. Galt and Holton sitting just behind him.<sup>121</sup>

MR. GALT--(laughing)--No, not every one.<sup>122</sup>

Loud cries of hear, hear, from the ministerial benches.<sup>123</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD was referring now to Upper Canada--that section of the Province to which the late Inspector General more particularly belonged. When Messrs. Baldwin and Lafontaine retired from office, the late Inspector General took shelter under the wing of the hon. member for Norfolk (Dr. Rolph). He went to the County of Oxford with a letter of recommendation from that gentleman in his pocket, but even that scarcely sufficed to keep up his tottering popularity. But at that time, a movement was made with reference to railroads. The late Inspector General went to England, and they all recollected his manly letter to the then Colonial Secretary. But they all knew, that but for that railroad agitation of those days, the administration could not have kept its position, even till the meeting of the last parliament. It had been said that the present combination was the only one that could have been successfully made, and the independent reformers of Upper Canada, had been charged with allying themselves with what was popularly termed the Rouge party of Lower Canada. It was admitted that that party embraced a considerable portion of the talent of Lower Canada, and what were the principles upon which they stood? The able representative of Montreal (Mr. Dorion)



told the house the other day, that they sought for nothing which could not be obtained under the workings of our present constitution. He (Mr. McD.) for one, could have no objection to a general alliance with that party, judging them by their declaration in this house, that they sought no reform by means of violence or bloodshed, but by the legitimate operation of the wishes of the people.<sup>124</sup>

Ecoute, écoute, from the Rouge party.<sup>125</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD [continued:] All attempts that had been made to resist or keep down public opinion in this country had failed. It would rise in spite of all such efforts, and sweep, like a spring freshet, every obstacle from before it. (Hear, hear.) He was not ashamed to avow that he was with the Rouge party on the main points, though he might differ with them as to time and details, and he believed that they would find many supporters throughout the country when their principles were clearly understood, and when it was known that they only sought to carry out those principles within the bounds of the constitution. The honorable member for Sherbrooke (Mr. Galt) had stated in the course of the debate, that the dissatisfaction on the part of reformers with the late administration, was owing to the Conservative tendencies of the Lower Canadian section of it. This he (Mr. McD.) denied in most positive terms. That dissatisfaction was owing to the dilatoriness and the deceptions practised by the Upper Canada section of the cabinet.<sup>126</sup> The true dissatisfaction arose from the doubts entertained of the sincerity of Mr. Hincks.<sup>127</sup> Mr. McDonald then went on to combat the assertion that the Conservatives of Upper Canada were the natural allies of the Lower Canadians, and, quoted in support of his position the resolutions adopted by the Tory Legislature of Upper Canada in 1839, setting forth the conditions on which they would consent to fraternize and unite with the Lower Canadians. One of these conditions was, that in apportioning representation in the House of Assembly of the united Provinces, Lower Canada, with 600,000 inhabitants, should have 50 representatives; whilst Upper Canada, with 407,000 inhabitants, should have 64 representatives. Another condition was, that the English language only should be used in the Legislature, courts of justice, and so forth. These (he continued) were those Tories whom his honorable friend from Montmorenci (Mr. Cauchon) delighted to honor, and to whom he had adhered for the last four years with a steadiness worthy of a better cause. (Laughter.) He was sorry his friend had been over-looked in the combination. (Hear, hear.)<sup>128</sup>

MR. CAUCHON.--And you? Have not you been over-looked too? (Cheers, and laughter.)<sup>129</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD had had no expectations. (Ironical cheers.)<sup>130</sup>

MR. CAUCHON.--Nor had I. (Hear, hear.)<sup>131</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD could not quite understand his honorable friend's position. He obstinately opposed the late administration, but he was willing to support the present ministry, although they professed to stand upon precisely the same platform. (Hear, hear.) It was, then, men and not measures, that honorable member cared for. Let him only see the treasury benches occupied by Tories, and he cared nothing about their measures. (Laughter.) He had read to his honorable friend the resolutions adopted by the gentlemen he was now going to support.<sup>132</sup>

MR. ROBINSON said Sir Allan MacNab was not in the parliament of Upper Canada at that time, and did not vote for the resolutions the gentleman had referred to.<sup>133</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD replied--Sir Allan was Speaker of the house at the time.<sup>134</sup>

MR. ROBINSON said he (Mr. R.) was in that parliament, and voted against those resolutions.<sup>135</sup>

MR. GAMBLE.--So did I.<sup>136</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD remarked that at that time the gentleman who just interrupted him, would then have nothing to do with the Lower Canadians on any terms. They were not looking to the treasury benches then.<sup>137</sup>

MR. CAUCHON inquired if the honorable member himself had not once been returned to parliament as a Tory? (Hear, hear.)<sup>138</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD replied that he had, but that he left that party eleven years ago, at the time of Lord Metcalfe's usurpations of power, and that he had since adhered steadily, through good and evil report, to his party.<sup>139</sup> He related a story of a boy who had two puppies to sell, a purchaser inquired whether they were reformers; the boy said, no Tories; then, said the purchaser, I will have nothing to do with them; but the boy replied--wait till their eyes are open and they will be reformers. His eyes are long ago opened, and he had never repented the vote he gave in Lord Metcalfe's time against the conferring of office by the Governor. He ended by a protest against a system which could by factitious means place power in the hands of a minority; it would be worse than that system condemned by Lord Durham.<sup>140</sup> The hon. member then read from Lord Durham's report, to show that the proceedings there charged against the old "Family Compact" were precisely similar to the proceedings of the late administration, though professing to act under a responsible system. He concluded by declaring, that if such combinations as these, placing the power and patronage of the government in the hands of a minority, who did not possess the confidence of the country, were to be the fruits of responsible government, he, for one, desired some other form of government than that. (Loud cheers.)<sup>141</sup>

MR. LANGTON explained that he had been entirely misunderstood by the honorable member for Glengarry, in his allusion to what had been stated by the Attorney General East. He (Mr. L.) had distinctly said that he believed the present administration would carry out the four principle (sic) measures of their predecessors, and that for that reason he should support them. Those measures were in relation to the Clergy Reserves, the Seigniorial Tenure, the Legislative Council, and Reciprocity. What he believed the administration would not endorse, were certain principles of government laid down by members of the late ministry. (Hear, hear.)<sup>142</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD had read in a leading Conservative paper that Sir Allan had no doubt adopted the measures of the late administration, reserving to himself the right to carry them out in a conservative spirit. He supposed that was what they were to expect. (Cheers and laughter.)<sup>143</sup>

MR. HINCKS trusted the House would agree with him that the time had really arrived when the speech of His Excellency the Governor General ought to be answered. The administration lately formed had adopted the leading measures indicated in that speech, and he could scarcely believe that the honorable member for Norfolk or any of those who had taken their seats on the opposition benches, would refuse to respond to it. He could not believe that there would be much difference of opinion in reference to it.<sup>144</sup> [He] was satisfied no stranger could possibly understand from the debate the question before the House<sup>145</sup>. Honorable members seemed to think that the debate on the address was the proper occasion for bringing forward their views upon every conceivable subject, and to suppose that all the measures of the session and all the details of those measures ought to be indicated and discussed in the speech from the throne. This, however, was not British practice. In England it was customary to make the speech as non-committal as possible and to adopt the address in reply unanimously and without amendment. He had no doubt the administration would bring forward a great many measures in the



course of the session which were not referred to in the speech.<sup>146</sup> The speech ... by no means, contained all the measures, still less, the details of measures which the Government meant to propose.<sup>147</sup> M. Hincks est bien d'opinion que dans l'intérêt de la bonne législation, on ne devrait pas exiger que le gouvernement réglât un trop grand nombre de questions importantes à la fois. Une, deux ou trois par session serait autant qu'on devrait exiger, et c'est ce qui se pratique en Angleterre. Ici cependant, on commet la faute de vouloir toujours que l'administration s'occupe de 15, 18 ou 20 questions importantes à la fois.<sup>148</sup> He (Mr. H.) could not, after the turn which the debate had taken, well avoid<sup>149</sup>, while on his legs,<sup>150</sup> a reference to some of the topics which had been treated of by those who preceded him. He had referred, on a former occasion, to the charges which had been so industriously circulated against himself personally. He was ready to meet those charges at a proper time<sup>151</sup> and place,<sup>152</sup> but he thought the country would believe that his accusers did not really desire a proper investigation when they saw the improper and inconvenient times at which the subject was brought up. (Hear, hear.)<sup>153</sup> That they were not brought forward in a fitting manner, was proof that they were not believed by those who spread the vile slanders about.<sup>154</sup> The honorable member for Glengarry was the very last man in the House who should have referred to those charges. He wondered that that gentleman of all others should have been put forward as the champion and leader of a party professing to be so particularly pure. (Hear, hear.) Thank goodness! none of the<sup>155</sup> most infamous<sup>156</sup> charges which had been preferred against him false and malicious as they were, would at all compare with that gentleman's conduct in relation to the Cornwall lots,<sup>157</sup> in which the guilt of the hon. member had been<sup>158</sup> stamped by a judgment of the Court of Chancery setting aside his patent to those lots. (Loud cheers.) The charges against him should at least come from some gentleman with clean hands. (Renewed cheers.) It was useless to continue a discussion in regard to the late resignation and the circumstances which followed it, because everything in relation to it rested upon matters of fact which gentlemen opposite thought proper to dispute. These gentlemen were themselves so accustomed to intrigue<sup>159</sup> and tricks<sup>160</sup> that they could not give any one else credit for pursuing a straightforward course. (Hear, hear.) They might circulate their vile slanders through the country, but he defied them to produce a particle of proof in support of the allegations they made. He stated most emphatically that it was not in his power to have prevented the formation of the present Government; it would have been formed whatever course he (Mr. H.) had pursued (Hear, hear.)<sup>161</sup> Even had it been formed without the present element of Upper Canada liberalism which it contained,<sup>162</sup> was he to give a factious opposition to his late colleagues from Lower Canada, to whom he was bound by every tie of personal friendship and political agreement, when they proposed to carry out the identical measures of the late administration, merely because he himself had been obliged to retire. Were he to do so, he would be the basest of men. (Hear, hear.) The honorable member for Glengarry had stated that he (Mr. H.) had lost the confidence of Upper Canada as represented in this House. It was true that the confidence of a majority of the members from Upper Canada had been withdrawn from the Administration of which he had had the honor to be a member, but, nevertheless, he stated fearlessly that he had more of the confidence of<sup>163</sup> the people of Upper Canada, and more of the confidence even of members of that House<sup>164</sup> at this moment than the member for Glengarry had. (Cheers.) The opposition to the late ministry arose from various causes. Some objected to one member of it, some to another, and as a whole it did not enjoy confidence, but still the charge came with a bad grace from a gentleman who could command nothing like the confidence of a majority of the liberal party of Upper Canada. (Hear, hear.) There were three parties from Upper Canada, and after all, the one which supported the late administration at the time of their



resignation, was the largest, whereas the one of which the honorable member was the leader was the smallest of the three. (Hear, hear.) By a combination, however, in which the honorable member took part, the ministry were defeated and compelled to resign. He was now about to make a statement to the House--and he should do it with regret--of a circumstance which he should never have made public but for some of the remarks of the honorable member for Glengarry.<sup>165</sup> He ... felt obliged to relate a circumstance which he had intended never to mention, which he thought the hon. members of that House would hardly think credible, and which he was truly sorry to be compelled by the statements opposite to bring to light. He had already stated in the House that there were circumstances which must have led to the resignation, even without the vote on the case of Mr. Brodeur.<sup>166</sup> Circumstances had occurred on the Thursday, on the evening of which the ministry were defeated on the question of privilege, which would have led to the resignation of the administration.... Those circumstances involved his (Mr. H.'s) relation with one of his late colleagues. He had earnestly desired to avoid anything like an appearance of personal feeling on the occasion of the late resignation, and he would much have preferred not to have been under the necessity of alluding to this matter now. But on Thursday afternoon<sup>167</sup> [OR] on the Thursday morning<sup>168</sup>, he (Mr. H.) was informed by one of his colleagues, the late Speaker of the Legislative Council, (Mr. Morris) that he had had a political conversation with the then President of the Council, (Dr. Rolph) which conversation he could not communicate as it was confidential, but that he had been under the necessity of writing a letter to Dr. Rolph to dissuade him from some course he was about to take. He (Mr. H.) was somewhat surprised on receiving this information, but on his return to the House, whilst the discussion was going on, he was informed by the Provincial Secretary that he, too, had received a communication from Dr. Rolph, who had called on him during the day, stated that it was his intention to resign, and asked to whom he should tender his resignation.<sup>169</sup> No announcement of any kind of the intention of the honorable member for Norfolk to resign had been made to him, (Mr. H.) (Hear, hear.) Well, the debate on the question of privilege went on, and no doubt many gentlemen observed with surprise that the honorable member for Norfolk voted against the government of which he was a member. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) He (Mr. H.) could, under the circumstances, arrive at no other conclusion but that the hon. member for Norfolk, looking to the position of the government and the state of parties, was going over to the party that was opposed to the government, and of course it was impossible for him (Mr. H.) to remain any longer in the government. (Hear, hear.) That event alone would have rendered it necessary for him to resign immediately, but the divisions in the House during that evening were sufficient to justify the resignation on public grounds. He would not have referred to this matter had he not found that the friends of the honorable member for Norfolk were complaining that he (Dr. R.) had not been consulted with regard to the resignation of the ministry. The real fact was that that gentleman had announced his own intention of resigning to two of his colleagues, and had actually asked to whom he was to tender his resignation without making any communication to him (Mr. H.) on the subject. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. H.) was perfectly satisfied, whatever might be said upon the other side, that it was not his duty to offer any advice to the Governor General when he tendered his resignation. (Hear, hear.) Most assuredly he had not presumed to offer any such advice, and whatever might be said of secret influence, he was perfectly satisfied that the Governor General had exercised the prerogative of the Crown in the manner he thought right without consulting any one.<sup>170</sup>

DR. ROLPH explained that he had considered the vote on the Speakership, electing the gentleman upon whose motion ministers were defeated in the last Parliament,

such a manifestation of want of confidence in the government as not to justify them in longer retaining office, for he had laid down the rule that on the slightest indication of want of confidence, a ministry ought immediately to resign. The honourable member for Renfrew had complained that he (Dr. R.) had talked about resigning without consulting him.--The honourable member had known all along that he had thought the ministry ought to resign directly after the defeat on the Speakership, for he (Dr. R.) had taken that position in the Executive Council. All he had done after that was to consult two of his colleagues (Messrs. Morris and Chauveau) on the subject, and surely he had a perfect right to do that.<sup>171</sup> He could not understand why he was to be debarred from consulting confidently with any one of them, without being obliged to have the Inspector General present. Those colleagues had dissuaded him from resigning and he had not resigned--what had the Inspector General to complain of?<sup>172</sup> Upon consultation with those gentlemen, he had come to the conclusion that he would not tender his resignation; and, therefore, he had said nothing on the subject to the late Inspector General. But the honourable gentleman charged him with having voted against the government. He would like to know if, under responsible government, a man was obliged to vote egregiously wrong and contrary to his conscientious convictions of what was right upon a mere question of privilege, in order to evince his confidence in the government? He hoped to live to see the day when every man, whether he happened to be in the government or not, would be able to act an honest and independent part. What were the circumstances under which he voted against the government? He considered the question of privilege an open question.--He felt mortified at finding that there were five seats contested on the ministerial side of the House, and none on the opposition side, and he could not take part in anything that might have even the appearance of stifling enquiry. The return read at the table showed the returning officer for the County of Bagot had returned himself, and that the election was therefore null and void.<sup>173</sup> His vote on the privilege case was given after the Inspector General had without opposition permitted the election return to be brought up, and when he saw from that return that Mr. Brodeur had no right in the House. This the ministry had since confessed themselves. What alternative had he after that conviction, but to vote as he did--was he sitting as a judge to act in opposition to his conscience?<sup>174</sup> He voted for delay, but when the sense of the House had been expressed against that, he could not have pursued any other course than the one had (sic) adopted.<sup>175</sup>

MR. HINCKS then resumed, and said that the honourable member's friends were complaining that he had not been consulted with regard to the resignation. Now how could they know that fact unless it had been communicated to them by the honourable member. It was true that the honourable member had expressed the opinion on Thursday morning that the ministry ought to resign after the vote on the Speakership, but the subject was discussed in the executive council and the Hon. Gentleman's views were not sustained.<sup>176</sup> As the decision had been given in the negative, he thought there was an end of it.<sup>177</sup> The Hon. member having then, previously made up his mind on the subject of the resignation, there was no necessity for him (Mr. H.) to consult him about it.<sup>178</sup>

DR. ROLPH denied that he had ever said anything to any gentleman about his not having been consulted by the Inspector general, until he was spoken to himself on the subject. He did not [know] how the information had been obtained.<sup>179</sup>

MR. HINCKS said that one thing was clear, and that was that there was no division in the ministry as to the necessity of resigning at the time the resignation took place on Friday, for the Hon. member for Norfolk had declared that



the vote on the Speakership alone, without reference to the proceedings of Thursday evening, was sufficient to require it. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. H.) had just received a note from the late Speaker of the Legislative Council (Mr. Morris) reminding him that in the conversation with that gentleman to which he had referred,<sup>180</sup> Mr. Morris had not informed him of what had taken place, until he (Mr. H.) had first said to Mr. Morris--"I really think Dr. Rolph means to resign."<sup>181</sup> He could not recollect at this moment what reason he had had for coming to that conclusion, but he believed that was the true state of the case. Leaving the subject of the resignation, Mr. Hincks then went on to declare that the negotiation for the coalition had proceeded a considerable way before he heard anything of it, or had any idea that such a coalition was likely to be formed. He also expressed his conviction, although professing to have no positive information on the subject, that in the confidential communication between Sir Allan MacNab and Mr. Morin, the latter strongly urged the necessity of extending the coalition so as to include that portion of the ex-ministerial party who came from Upper Canada. This, he contended, was only fair, considering the strength of the ex-ministerial party in the House. No one could deny, he said, that it was the strongest party in the House, although it had been defeated by a temporary combination between several weaker parties. He eulogized the present coalition, but avowed that he would have supported the new administration, even although the U.C. Reform party had had no representatives in it, provided it had been prepared to carry out the measures of the late administration. This, he prophesied, would be found, after all, to be also the position of many of the honourable gentlemen who had ranged themselves behind the honourable member for Glengarry, and who had in a most un-British manner signed a "round robbin (sic)" and sent it forth to the country condemning the course of certain members of the House. He referred especially to Mr. Merritt who had crossed the House to mark his deep indignation against the present government. That gentleman he predicted, would support the measures of the administration as warmly as he (Mr. H.) would.<sup>182</sup>

MR. MERRITT.--Unquestionably, there is no doubt of it. (Hear, hear.)<sup>183</sup>

MR. HINCKS said that all the administration wanted the gentleman to do was to support their ... measures.<sup>184</sup>

MR. MERRITT.--Of course. They'll make use ... of me as long as they can. (Laughter.)<sup>185</sup>

MR. HINCKS then expressed his belief that under present circumstances, none of the gentlemen named by Dr. Rolph would have been able to form an administration that would have commanded the confidence of the House. The support received by the member for North York, (Mr. Hartman) in the last Parliament, referred to the late despatch of the Governor General, indicated that there were not many members in the House disposed to act with him, at least.--The fact was that an attempt had been made on the part of a small faction of the liberal party to take the entire government of the country into their hands against the wishes of a large majority of the House. (Hear, hear.) The attempt however had failed, and an administration had been formed pledged to carry out the measures which honourable gentlemen opposite professed to be most anxious to see carried out.<sup>186</sup> The conduct of that minority since had been most improper--they had resorted to the extraordinary course, utterly opposed to British practice, and which he was convinced no statesman could lend himself to, of signing a round robin condemning the course now taken.<sup>187</sup> He desired now to state his views with regard to the organization of political parties. He was quite satisfied that the great evil which had befallen the reform party of this country, which had destroyed its unity and



prevented it from carrying on the government, was that gentlemen would not be satisfied without having a great number of issues before the country at the same time. In England it was considered sufficient to have one great question before the country at a time but in Canada people were not satisfied with even five or six but must have twenty or thirty. (Hear, hear, hear.) Now it was impossible to get men to agree upon so many questions. The honourable member for Haldimand (Mr. Mackenzie), for instance, brought forward all kinds of motions, many of which the government were obliged to oppose for the reason that they could not agree to support them. The honourable member for Sherbrooke (Mr. Galt,) remarked the other day that it might be true that the administration would carry the great measures now more immediately before the country, but, asked he, could they depend upon that administration for the other liberal measures which the country desired. He (Mr. H.) thought that it would be time enough, after these measures were carried on which the country was now agreed, to bring forward other measures upon which new parties could be formed and new combinations made. Now there were several questions of importance before the country which the people desired to have carried. If the gentlemen now in power would not agree to carry out those measures, then let the House withdraw its confidence from them, but it was a great mistake to withhold confidence from a government which was prepared to carry out those measures which the country more immediately desired.--This he believed to be sound British doctrine.<sup>188</sup> He defended the member for Northumberland against Dr. Rolph, by saying the resolutions proposed by that gentleman were the same which Dr. Rolph had sanctioned when he was in the ministry; and then turning to the complaints made of his conduct to Mr. Wilson, declared they were not shared in by Mr. Wilson himself, whose refusal to support the combination proceeded on purely personal grounds; and that before acceding to Sir Allan's request he had waited on Mr. W. who knew what Sir Allan had done within a quarter of an hour of the gallant knight's interview with him (Mr. H.). The combinations were not as alleged wholly destitute of principle for they brought into connection with the liberals those liberal conservatives, who had long had a tendency that way.<sup>189</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD (Glengary) stated in reply to Mr. Hincks' attack, that the decree of the Court of Chancery against him was in a case between man and man and charged him with no fraud.<sup>190</sup> The Inspector Gen. had figured in the Court of Chancery, at least as disadvantageously as himself. The difference was that after the decree in his own case he had retained the confidence of the country<sup>191</sup>. Immediately after that, he (Mr. McD.) was appointed Solicitor General and had since held positions of trust and honor, but the case of the Hon. member for Renfrew was still in the Court of Chancery and the people had lost confidence in him and had driven him from power. (Loud cries of Hear, hear.)<sup>192</sup>

MR. HARTMAN said that whether or not the honorable member for Renfrew (Mr. Hincks) was the architect of the present administration, he was at least its exponent upon this floor. (Hear, hear.) He was what the honorable member for Montmorenci (Mr. Cauchon), in last Parliament, facetiously called the "glue" of the present government. (A laugh.) He was at all events, its exponent in the House, for up to this time no member of the new administration had taken part in the debate.<sup>193</sup>

MR. HINCKS would thank the Hon. member to speak the truth. He had not said one word about the present government as the exponent of its views and the hon. member knew it.<sup>194</sup>

MR. HARTMAN would leave it to the House to say whether the honorable member had or had not done so. He thought reformers should watch the present government

closely before giving it a cordial support.<sup>195</sup> [He] remarked that when the late Insp. Genl. told the House that he had consulted Mr. Wilson before he gave his adhesion to the new ministry, the hon. member ought to recollect what he had stated on a previous evening, when he said that at the first interview with Sir Allan he consented at once to aid him, on hearing that the late ministry's measures were to be prosecuted by the new one.<sup>196</sup> He was not astonished to find the honorable member for Renfrew pursuing the course he had taken on this occasion<sup>197</sup>, for he had done the same thing before<sup>198</sup>. That gentleman had more than once before quoted the declaration of the Duke of Wellington that Her Majesty's government must be carried on, and that if one party would not do it, another must. It was not surprising, therefore, to find that gentleman supporting any party that had power enough to carry on the government whatever its principles might be.<sup>199</sup> In fact, he congratulated the other side<sup>200</sup> that the country would at last find the honorable gentleman where he belonged. (Hear, hear.) The hon. ex-Insp'r Gen'l had attacked him (Mr. H.) and had endeavoured to make it appear that he was ambitious of power and influence. The hon. gent. did not really believe this, nor could he persuade the House to believe it.<sup>201</sup> He denied that he had ever thought of taking office himself, though he conceived his influence quite equal to that of the Insp. Genl.<sup>202</sup> He (Mr. H.) was glad to find, from the honorable gentleman's own declaration, that he had some faint idea of what an honest man ought to do in this House. (A laugh.) They had often been treated by that gentleman to long dissertations upon the duty of members of a political party to support that party and he (Mr. H.) had several times, been severely censured because he would not give an unconditional support to the government when he believed them to be in the wrong. They had now the declaration of the hon. gent. himself that he would never give a vote because one set of men was in power or another. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. H.) wanted to see the hon. member act up to that declaration and he only claimed for himself the same privilege. He would like to know on what ground the country could be appealed to to support such an administration as the present?<sup>203</sup> Another member (Mr. Langton) had said he supported govt. because he thought it would make the measures so much spoken of better, and complete more speedily than the last, and this because they dared not act otherwise. He thought support on such ground a degradation.<sup>204</sup> Of whom was the Upper Canadian section of it composed? Who were the men in it who enjoyed the confidence of two-thirds of the people of U.C. as lately declared at the polls? Three of those men were selected from amongst the opponents of those two-thirds of the people of U.C.<sup>205</sup> [There were] two others (Messrs. Spence and Ross), one little known and the other that gentleman who had given to the late administration the character of an out-and-out railway government.<sup>206</sup> One of the ... two (Mr. Ross) was a gentleman who was generally admitted and publicly acknowledged to be as odious to the people of U.C., as a politician, as any member of the late administration. (Hear, hear.)<sup>207</sup> The three conservative members of the new ministry and their friends were exactly that party who had given the most violent opposition to the seigniorial bill, while the help in its favour all came from the liberals. He hoped Lower Canadians would reflect on that before irrevocably committing themselves.<sup>208</sup> He asked Lower Canadian reformers if the men with whom they had now allied themselves had not always been their enemies and if they had not deserted the U.C. reformers who had for years labored side by side with them? Was it to be understood that the U.C. members of the administration had gone over to the views of the L.C. members of it on the important question of representation by population? (Hear hear.) In the last Parliament, Sir A. McNab expressed himself strongly in favour of the principle of representation by population. Had this question been carefully considered by the administration and was Sir Allan prepared to adopt the views upon that question



of the L.C. portion of it, or were they prepared to go over to his side of the question? They had been told by the honorable member for Peterboro (Mr. Langton) that the administration had accepted the principles and not the details of the measures of the late administration. He (Mr. H.) was curious to see what the difference in the details would be. He much feared that it would be such as to destroy the principles altogether. (Hear, hear.)<sup>209</sup>

Some remarks ... [were made by] MR. MARCHILDON<sup>210</sup>.

MR. FOLEY compared honorable gentlemen opposite to an exhibition now in Quebec called "the Happy Family," which he described as an assemblage, in harmonious concert, of animals of the most opposite natures and habits. He remarked that as in that exhibition there was on the opposite side of the house a union of the most heterogeneous elements.<sup>211</sup> According to the Hon. Inspector General the administration thus composed was the result of no design whatever--it was all the creature of accident.<sup>212</sup> They saw there, representatives of ultra toryism and of ultra radicalism--men of all parties and men of no party. Gentlemen from Upper Canada with whom he (Mr. F.) had acted when first he came here and with whom he had acted during his lifetime, but who still retained their seats on the ministerial benches, could not but feel, notwithstanding all that might be said by the late Inspector General and others to quiet their consciences, that they occupied an anomalous position. Lower Canadian gentlemen who had acted with those same Reformers in other times and under other circumstances, must also feel that they too occupied an anomalous position. The present combination could not long exist. It was a rope of sand which the first adverse passing breeze would scatter again into its natural elements. Honorable gentlemen, in forming this unholy union, seemed to have forgotten the history of the past.<sup>213</sup> Nor was the Inspector General more consistent than his party.<sup>214</sup> Hon. gentlemen on his side of the house had been charged this evening with inconsistent and un-British conduct by those who had themselves set an example for that conduct. He was surprised to hear the reference made by the late Inspector General to the manifesto which gentlemen on that side had seen fit to send forth to the people of Upper Canada, in the hope of averting the calamity which was impending over the country. He would remind that honorable gentleman of a precisely similar circumstance which occurred in 1845. He would remind him of the amalgamation which then took place between certain members of the Reform party and the Sydenham government. On that occasion the hon. Thomas Parke saw fit to desert his party for the sake of office, and what was the course then taken by the Reform members of the Legislative Assembly who felt the same indignation and hostility which gentlemen felt to the present coalition? Why, they issued a precisely similar remonstrance to the Reformers of Upper Canada, calling upon them to reject with indignation the individual who, for the sake of office, had joined a government to the principles of which he had always been opposed, and unless he (Mr. F.) was greatly mistaken, the name of the late Inspector General headed that "round robbin (sic)." (Hear, hear.) It ill-became the late Inspector General, with this fact fresh in the recollection of the House, to accuse of having done that which was "un-British" those who had only followed the example which he himself set. With this glaring instance of inconsistency and mis-statement before them,<sup>215</sup> the House might learn what faith they could place in the account of the Inspector General of facts that might be more obscure.<sup>216</sup> (Hear, hear.) It had been stated in the course of the debate that only one gentleman who had hitherto acted in opposition to Reform principles had thought proper to express his opinions on the present peculiar position of affairs. This was an error; the hon. member for Simcoe (Mr. Robinson) had also addressed the House, and for what purpose? To define his position and confess candidly and openly that the Conservative party



had abandoned their principles and joined the reform party to carry out Reform principles? No, but he stood up to defend that government, which of all other governments that ever existed in Canada was the most detested and abominated by the Reformers of Upper Canada--the government of Sir Francis Bond Head. (Hear, hear.) The whole bearing of the remarks of that gentleman was in justification of that odious and abominable government against which the people--he (Mr. F.) was not afraid to say it--justly rose up. (Cheers.) It was in union with a gentleman like that that honorable members who had hitherto acted with the Reform party were now to be found. Did gentlemen expect to be able to justify such an alliance before any Reform constituency by saying that they entered into it from motives of expediency and in order to carry their measures, when it was a notorious fact that there was an overwhelming majority of Reformers from both Upper and Lower Canada in this House? The Lower Canadian Reformers and the Upper Canadian Reformers had stood together in "the times that tried men's souls," and battled for each other's rights, and he could not help feeling that since this odious and happy combination, he had been placed in a false position. (Hear, hear.) He felt that he ought still to stand side by side with the Reformers of Lower Canada. He wished them to know this, for he was convinced that it was only by misrepresentation, and deception and by groundless and unfounded statements that they had been induced to occupy their present position. A fact had come to his knowledge this evening which he would state to the House and if he said anything that was incorrect he hoped some Lower Canadian Reformer would set him right. He wished to show that that party had been drilled into their present position.--(Ironical cries of Hear, hear.) He had been given to understand that on the night after the resignation of the late ministry, the Lower Canadian Reformers held a meeting by themselves. He blamed them for not having cordially invited their Upper Canadian brethren to that meeting that they might have consulted together as friends and brothers for the purpose of preserving the unity of the party and upholding those great principles which they had so long maintained in common. (Loud cries of Hear, hear). At that meeting an unanimous resolution was come to, after due deliberation, that they would under no circumstances ally themselves with the Tories of Upper Canada. (Hear, hear). Was this correct? (A pause). He took it for granted then that it was correct and surely it was a just and righteous resolution--to stand by those who had stood by them in perilous times, and under no circumstances to abandon them. (Cheers.)--Was a period like this of difficulty and disunion amongst the Upper Canadian Reformers the time for their Lower Canadian brethren to abandon them? Oh no, and he sincerely hoped that they would yet be re-united and once more stand side by side when the mists of prejudice and deception had passed away. (Hear, hear.) Having met deliberately and without executive influence to control them, they came to that conclusion which was honourable to themselves and just to the Reform party of Upper Canada. What induced them to alter that resolution? Had they any consultation with their true friends, the Reformers of Upper Canada? He had been given to understand that no other meeting had taken place till it was announced on the floor of the House and through other channels that they were to follow the lead of the government. (Hear, hear.) Could it then be said that it was the free will of the Reformers of Lower Canada to be connected with their natural opponents? No. The inevitable conclusion was, that deception and other improper means had been resorted to, to drill them into their present anomalous and unnatural position. (Hear, hear.) He regretted that insinuations had been thrown out by the gentleman from West Northumberland, (Mr. Smith,) that the gentlemen who acted with him, (Mr. F.) were influenced by personal ambition and a desire for personal preferment. It was not from gentlemen opposite that insinuations of that kind should come. It was not the setting sun that men usually

worshipped. Perhaps the insinuation might with propriety be retorted upon the honourable member for West Northumberland. Certain it was, that an official position some 150 miles from where that gentleman resided, lately became vacant and remained so until after the House met. The representatives of that section of the country were given to understand by the late Attorney General West, that, in accordance with custom, and as he (Mr. F.) believed, with constitutional usage, they should be consulted in relation to the appointment to that office. A few days ago that office was gazetted, and from whence did the appointee come? Why, he was translated 150 or 200 miles, and came from the County of West Northumberland!--(Loud cries of Hear, hear.) This was but one instance of how these insinuations might be retorted. There were other rumors in circulation, that there were Grand Trunk Railway arbitrations to be filled up, and other appointments to be made. Now, Reformers must not only look to the legislative position of the present government but also to their administrative measures. The Administrative Department of the government, dispensing as it did, the whole patronage of the country, should above all others be pure, uncontaminated and above suspicion. (Hear, hear.) Well, he had been told within the last day or two that the new administration had promised the late Inspector General that all the patronage of the counties should be disposed of as the members for the counties might direct. (Hear, hear.) Was this true? He had been told it by<sup>217</sup> liberal supporters of the government<sup>218</sup> on whose word he placed the utmost reliance. It was unbecoming in gentlemen who were liable to these suspicions to taunt gentlemen on his side of the House with selfish and impure motives and a desire for place. The course of Sir Robert Peel had been referred to to justify the present coalition. It was unnecessary to go to such a distance for precedents when we had precedents of our own to refer to. He recollected a case somewhat akin to this in which the late Inspector General also figured somewhat conspicuously. He referred to the connection of that gentleman with the Draper-Harrison government. (Hear, hear.) What was the opinion of Robert Baldwin, who was still looked up to by gentlemen opposite as a great constitutional authority, in reference to that combination? Why, he characterized the desertion of a party as "an immoral act," and in the excess of his indignation gave utterance to those memorable words--"Confidence once forfeited can never be restored." (Cheers.) The confidence of the Reform party, had been in a great measure restored to the late Inspector General, but now that it had been a second time broken, surely no further opportunity would be afforded to that gentleman to betray and desert that party. (Loud Cheers.) Mr. Foley then referred to the coalition formed by Messrs. Papineau, Viger, and De Bleury with the conservatives of Upper Canada, and to the storm of indignation which that combination awakened in Lower Canada.<sup>219</sup> [T]here was that one in which Mr. Parke was concerned ... and that attempt to effect one known as the Caron Correspondence. All these were condemned. The country, too, would condemn this one; and he called on the Lower Canadians to reflect before it was too late.<sup>220</sup> He concluded by expressing his conviction that as it had been with former coalitions, so it would be with this--the Reform party would indignantly repudiate it, and that if this was to be the result of Responsible government the people of Canada would soon raise the cry of "Down with Responsible Government!" (Loud Cheers.)<sup>221</sup>

MR. STEVENSON, from a rear seat on the ministerial benches, essayed to answer Mr. Foley, and appeared, from the occasional laughs around him, to be indulging in a series of witticisms at that gentleman's expense. But the hour was late, (past midnight) the house was wrapt in darkness, (the gas having, after long threatening it, finally gone out) the honorable member spoke in a "still small voice," and from these combined causes, only a stray word or two reached the

reporters' desks.<sup>222</sup>

MR. YOUNG rose and moved an adjournment of the debate.<sup>223</sup>

MR. FELTON opposed it as loss of time.<sup>224</sup>

MR. YOUNG supposed the gentleman was quite unaware of the time he had occupied himself.<sup>225</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE thought opposition came very badly from a member in the House but a few days.<sup>226</sup>

The Ministers present opposed this course [an adjournment], on the ground that it would be disrespectful to the Governor General longer to delay answering his speech, and urged the house to come to a final vote to-night.<sup>227</sup>

The opposition on the other hand contended that the usual time had not yet been allowed for the debate on the address.<sup>228</sup> Quelques membres du côté ministériel ayant parlé d'en finir ... sur l'adresse, afin de se mettre à l'oeuvre d'une manière sérieuse dès la semaine prochaine, on feignit de croire que le gouvernement voulait étouffer la discussion, et avait de la répugnance à entrer dans les détails des mesures mentionnées dans l'adresse.<sup>229</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD de Glengarry annonça même alors que son hon. ami, M. W.L. McKenzie avait intention de faire un discours de sept ou huit heures, et que plusieurs autres se proposaient de le suivre.<sup>230</sup>

MR. HINCKS soothingly suggested, as a compromise, that the House should adjourn, with a general understanding on all sides that the debate should be terminated on Monday.<sup>231</sup>

This called out MR. A. DORION, of Montreal, who could not resist the temptation to taunt the Ministerial party with being led by the fallen prime minister<sup>232</sup>.

Then ensued a long and acrimonious debate on every conceivable subject, in which MR. HINCKS, MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND, MR. MACKENZIE, MR. COM. PUB. WORKS CHABOT, MR. PAPIN, MR. A. DORION, MR. FELTON, and MR. J.S. MACDONALD of Glengarry, took an active part.<sup>233</sup>

MR. CAMERON restored the good humour of the House by counselling members to follow the good example set them by the gas and go out too<sup>234</sup>.

An adjournment till Monday took place without further demur from the occupants of the treasury benches.<sup>235</sup>

(46)

*On motion of the Honorable Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Mackenzie, Ordered, That the Debate be further adjourned until Monday next.*

(47)

*Then, on motion of the Honorable John Sandfield Macdonald, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chabot, The House adjourned until Monday next.*



## APPENDIX: 15 SEPTEMBER 1854.

## [NOTICE OF MOTION RE: QUEBEC AND SAGUENAY RAILWAY BILL.]

MR. ALLEYN [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate the Quebec and Saguenay Railway Company.<sup>236</sup>

## [NOTICE OF MOTION RE: QUEBEC ENGLISH-SPEAKING CATHOLICS BILL.]

MR. ALLEYN [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate the congregation of the Catholics of Quebec speaking the English language.<sup>237</sup>

## [NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO AMEND INTERPRETATION ACT RESPECTING HOLIDAYS.]

MR. FERRES [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to repeal the 12th section of the 5th clause of the Act, 12 Victoria chapter 10, commonly called the Interpretation Act, in so far as relates to all Holidays, Except Sundays, Christmas and New Year's Day, and any day appointed by proclamation for a general fast or thanksgiving.<sup>238</sup>

## [NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BYTOWN AS SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.]

MR. PATRICK [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move] that it is expedient that ample accommodation should be provided at Bytown for the residence of the Governor General, for the two Houses of Parliament, and for the various Departments of the Public Service, with as little delay as possible.<sup>239</sup>

## [NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: PAYMENT OF PETIT JURORS IN LOWER CANADA.]

MR. C. DAOUST (Beauharnais) [donne avis que] mardi prochain [il] demandera au ministère si c'est son intention de prendre quelque mesure, durant la présente session, pour pourvoir au paiement des petits jurés dans le Bas-Canada.<sup>240</sup>

## [NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: REGISTRY OFFICES IN NEW RIDINGS IN LOWER CANADA.]

MR. DUFRESNE [donne avis que] lundi prochain [il] demandera au ministère s'il a l'intention d'introduire un bill dans la présente session, ayant pour objet d'établir des bureaux d'enregistrement dans les nouveaux comtés du Bas-Canada, ou aucune mesure reconnaissant les dits nouveaux comtés pour aucune autre fin que celle de la représentation.<sup>241</sup>

## [NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: AMENDMENT OF 16 VIC. C. 213 TO SUBMIT REGULATIONS PASSED UNDER IT TO THE MUNICIPAL ELECTORS.]

MR. PREVOST [donne avis que] lundi prochain [il] demandera au ministère s'il a l'intention d'amender l'acte passé dans le dernier parlement chap. 213, de manière à soumettre les règlements qui pourront être passés par les municipalités dans le Bas-Canada en vertu de cette loi, à l'approbation des électeurs municipaux des localités pour lesquelles tels règlements auront été ainsi adoptés, comme le veut le statut chap. 138 passé dans la même (sic) session pour autoriser la municipalité de Terrebonne et autres à prendre des actions dans les compagnies de chemin de fer.<sup>242</sup>

## FOOTNOTES: 15 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
2. IBID.
3. IBID.
4. IBID.
5. IBID.
6. IBID.
7. IBID.
8. IBID.
9. Telegraph (MONTREAL GAZETTE, 16 September 1854).
10. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
11. IBID.
12. IBID.
13. IBID.
14. IBID.
15. IBID.
16. IBID.
17. IBID.
18. IBID.
19. IBID.
20. IBID.
21. IBID.
22. IBID.
23. IBID.
24. IBID.
25. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
26. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
27. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
28. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
29. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
30. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
31. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
32. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
33. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
34. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
35. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
36. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
37. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
38. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
39. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
40. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
41. PILOT, 19 September 1854.
42. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
43. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
44. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
45. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
46. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
47. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
48. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
49. IBID.
50. IBID.
51. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
52. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.

53. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
54. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
55. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
56. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
57. PILOT, 19 September 1854.
58. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
59. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
60. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
61. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
62. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
63. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
64. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
65. IBID.
66. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
67. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
68. IBID.
69. IBID.
70. IBID.
71. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
72. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
73. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
74. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
75. IBID.
76. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
77. GLOBE, 20 September 1854, which remarked, "The honorable member was unfortunately almost entirely inaudible to the reporter's gallery. In addition to this, the gas went very nearly out whilst he was speaking and darkness for a time covered the face of the hall, so that the luckless reporters could neither see nor hear what was going on."
78. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
79. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
80. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
81. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
82. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
83. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
84. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
85. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
86. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
87. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
88. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
89. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
90. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
91. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
92. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
93. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
94. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 19 September 1854.
95. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
96. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 19 September 1854.
97. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
98. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
99. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
100. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
101. GLOBE, 20 September 1854.
102. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.



103. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
104. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
105. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
106. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
107. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
108. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
109. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
110. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
111. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
112. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
113. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
114. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
115. PILOT, 19 September 1854.
116. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
117. PILOT, 19 September 1854.
118. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
119. PILOT, 19 September 1854.
120. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
121. PILOT, 19 September 1854.
122. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
123. IBID.
124. GLOBE, 23 September 1854. The following comment (from PILOT, 23 September 1854) may refer to Mr. Macdonald's speech: "On a recent occasion, an opposition man was on his legs; and in the most barefaced manner lubricated the Rouge party with adulation so fulsome, that one of the brotherhood who had taken his hat to go out,--for a drink I suppose, or a cigar, at any rate for relief,--could not withstand the "soft sawder," but sat himself down again to take it in comfortably."
125. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
126. IBID.
127. PILOT, 19 September 1854.
128. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
129. IBID.
130. IBID.
131. IBID.
132. IBID.
133. IBID.
134. IBID.
135. IBID.
136. IBID.
137. IBID.
138. IBID.
139. IBID.
140. PILOT, 19 September 1854.
141. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
142. IBID.
143. IBID.
144. IBID.
145. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
146. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
147. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
148. LA MINERVE, 21 September 1854.
149. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
150. PILOT, 20 September 1854.

151. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
152. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
153. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
154. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
155. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
156. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
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160. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
161. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
162. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
163. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
164. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
165. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
166. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
167. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
168. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
169. GLOBE, 23 September 1854. PILOT, 20 September 1854, had it that Mr. Hincks  
"was informed by the Crown Lands Commissioner that the hon. gentleman had  
written to him to say he would resign."
170. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
171. IBID.
172. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
173. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
174. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
175. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
176. IBID.
177. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
178. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
179. IBID.
180. IBID.
181. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
182. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
183. IBID.
184. IBID.
185. IBID.
186. IBID.
187. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
188. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
189. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
190. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
191. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
192. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
193. IBID.
194. IBID.
195. IBID.
196. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
197. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
198. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
199. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
200. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
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202. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.

203. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
204. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
205. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
206. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
207. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
208. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
209. GLOBE, 23 September 1854. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854, has the following version of Mr. Hartman's last remarks: "He was the more anxious about the future opinions of these gentlemen, because the late Inspector General had told them he was pledged merely to the principle of the measure which had been announced and not the details, and because he feared the details would fail the principle."
210. PILOT, 20 September 1854.
211. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
212. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
213. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
214. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
215. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
216. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
217. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
218. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
219. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
220. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
221. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
222. IBID.
223. IBID.
224. MORNING CHRONICLE, 18 September 1854.
225. IBID.
226. IBID.
227. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
228. GLOBE, 23 September 1854, which noted, "Members on all sides looked sleepy and jaded. Some of the staunchest coalitionists yawned wearily, and cast longing glances towards the door."
229. LA MINERVE, 19 September 1854.
230. IBID.
231. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
232. IBID.
233. IBID.
234. IBID.
235. IBID.
236. MORNING CHRONICLE, 19 September 1854.
237. IBID.
238. IBID.
239. IBID.
240. LE PAYS, 19 September 1854.
241. IBID.
242. IBID.



MONDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(47)

THE following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Lemieux,--The Petition of O. Boudreau and others, Pilots for and above the Harbour of Quebec.

By the Honorable Mr. Cameron,--The Petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Toronto; and the Petition of Charles Jones and others, of the City of Toronto.

By Mr. Bowes,--The Petition of the Provincial Insurance Company of the City of Toronto; and the Petition of the Catholic Institute of Toronto.

By Mr. James Ross,--The Petition of W.H. Ponton and others.

By Mr. Felton,--The Petition of G.K. Foster and others, of the County of Sherbrooke; and the Petition of William Farwell, of the Township of Melbourne, in the County of Sherbrooke, in the Province of Canada, Yeoman.

By Mr. Gould,--The Petition of C. Lynde, Chairman, and J. Welsh, Secretary, on behalf of a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Whitby.

By Mr. Masson,--The Petition of Robert Simpson, of the Village and Parish of St. Andrews, alias Saint Andrews, in the County of Argenteuil, in the Province of Canada, Esquire, a qualified recognized Candidate for the Representation of the said County in Parliament now sitting; and the Petition of the Reverend F. Cholette and others, of the Parish of St. Polycarpe and other places.

By Mr. Papin,--The Petition of the Corporation of the College of L'Assomption.

By Mr. Cooke,--The Petition of W. Kiernan and others, Sons of Temperance, and others.

By Mr. Desaulniers,--The Petition of Alexis Caron and others, of the Township of Shawenegan, County of St. Maurice.

By Mr. Frazer,--The Petition of R.H. Thornhill and others, of the Township of Bertie, County of Welland.

By Mr. Dufresne,--The Petition of F. Renaud and others, of the Parish of St. Lignori, County of Montcalm; and the Petition of J.W. Dorwin and others, of the District of Montreal.

By Mr. Laberge,--The Petition of L'Institut Canadien of Iberville; and the Petition of Luc Letellier, Esquire, of the Parish of Rivière Ouelle, in the County of Kamouraska, Notary Public, lately a Candidate at the Election for the choice of a Member to represent the said County in the present Provincial Parliament of this Province, and as such duly qualified.

By Mr. Gamble,--The Petition of D. Macdonell and others, of the City of Toronto, Merchants.

By the Honorable Mr. Chabot,--The Petition of the Quebec Bank.

By Mr. Casault,--The Petition of Jean Langlois, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, Advocate.

By Mr. Clarke,--The Petition of George S. Tiffany and others.

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By Mr. Mackenzie,--The Petition of Martin Mackinnon, of the Township of Vaughan.

By Mr. Lumsden,--The Petition of the Municipality of the Village of Oshawa.

By Mr. Mongenais,--The Petition of Gédéon Ouimet and others, Municipal Councillors of the Village of Vaudreuil; and the Petition of H. Cartier and others, Municipal Councillors of the County of Vaudreuil.

By Mr. Fournier,--The Petition of the President and others of the Association of Teachers of the County of L'Islet.

By Mr. Sanborn,--The Petition of A. Stinson and others, Trustees of the Compton High School, in the County of Compton.

By Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion,--Two Petitions of the Reverend J.O. Prince, and others, of St. Norbert d'Arthabaska; the Petition of the there-undersigned André Benjamin Papineau, Notary, residing in the Parish of St. Martin, in the County of Laval, in the District of Montreal; and three Petitions of Noël Hébert and others, of St. Norbert d'Arthabaska.

By Mr. Sidney Smith,--The Petition of the Honorable Z. Burnham and others, of the Township of Hamilton, County of Northumberland.

By Mr. Joseph Curran Morrison,--The Petition of the Woodstock and Lake Erie Railway and Harbour Company.

By Mr. Southwick,--The Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Southwold; two Petitions of the Municipality of the Village of Vienna; the Petition of the Municipal Council of the County of Elgin; the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Yarmouth; the Petition of the President, Directors and Company of Port Burwell Harbour; and the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Bayham.

By Mr. Brown,--The Petition of Samuel Carr, of Toronto, Manufacturer.

By Mr. Cartier,--The Petition of the Reverend R.O. Bruneau and others, School Commissioners of the Parish of Verchères.

By Mr. James Smith,--The Petition of George Pandust and others, Chiefs and People of the Tribe of Mississauga Indians residing at Rice Lake, in the Township of Otonabee, County of Peterborough.

By Mr. Jean Baptiste Daoust,--The Petition of J. Keith and others, of the Circuit of Beauharnois.

By Mr. Matheson,--The Petition of Embro Division, No. 359, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Solicitor General Ross,--The Petition of James Douglas and others, of the City of Quebec.

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:--

Of the Corporation of St. Viateur; praying for aid in behalf of the College Joliette.

Of the Reverend L.J. Guyon and others, of the Parish of Ste. Elizabeth, County of Joliette; praying for aid in behalf of the establishment of the Reverend Sisters of Providence in the said Parish.

Of Hugh Elder and others, Sons of Temperance, and others; praying for the passing of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Of Stephen Mackay and others, of St. Eustache; and of Pierre Colin and others; praying for indemnity to all those persons who have been unjustly excluded from the benefits of the Act granting indemnity to sufferers by the Rebellion of 1837 and 1838.

Of George Okill Stuart, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, Advocate, George Honoré Simard, of the same place, Esquire, Merchant, and Hypolite Dubord, of the same place, Esquire, Merchant; setting forth: That under and in virtue of Her Majesty's Writ of Election, bearing date at the City of Quebec, on the

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twenty-third day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, issued for the Election of three Members to represent the said City in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, an Election was opened and began in the said City of Quebec, on the fourteenth day of July in the said year, being the nomination day for the said Election, by William Smith Sewell, Esquire, Sheriff of the District of Quebec, being and acting as the Returning

Officer for the said Election: That at and before the day of the date of the said Writ of Election, and at and during the time of the said Election, the Petitioners were, together with Jean Blanchet, of the City of Quebec, Physician and Surgeon, Charles Alleyn, of the same place, Advocate, and Jean Chabot, of the same place, Advocate, Commissioner of Public Works, severally Candidates at the said Election, and the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot have been returned by the said William Smith Sewell, Returning Officer as aforesaid, as duly elected to represent the said City as aforesaid: That the Petitioners at the time of the said Election entered a protest against the said Election and Return, which protest was not entertained or acted on by the said Returning Officer: That the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot were illegally and unduly returned to represent the said City in the said Parliament, by the said William Smith Sewell, because the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, and each of them, after the teste of the Writ for the said Election, and at and during the said Election, and before the Return of the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, at such Election did directly and indirectly by themselves and their authorized agents, and the authorized agents of each of them, for that purpose, employ divers means of corruption, by giving sums of money, offices, places, employment, gratuities, rewards, and bonds, bills and notes and conveyance of land, and promises of the same to divers electors of the said City whose votes have been given and recorded in favor of them the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, and by threatening divers of the said electors with the loss of their offices, salaries, incomes, and advantages with the intent to corrupt and bribe divers of the said electors to vote for them the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, and each of them, and to keep back divers others of them from voting for any other Candidate; and that the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, and each of them, did during the period aforesaid, by the said means of corruption, corrupt and bribe divers of the said electors to vote for them the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, and divers others of them to keep back from voting for any other Candidate; and that the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, Jean Chabot, and each of them, did open and support, and did cause to be opened and supported, at their costs and charges, and at the costs and charges of each of them, houses of public entertainment for the accommodation of the electors, and they the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, and other persons on their behalf did, with intent to promote their election and the election of each of them, the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, provide and furnish entertainment at his and their expense to divers meetings of electors assembled for the purpose of promoting such Election, previous to and during the said Election, and did pay for, procure and engage to pay for such entertainment, which entertainment was not furnished at the said meetings of electors by or at the expense of the said person or persons, at his, her or their usual place of residence: That the Petitioners do further represent that the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn and Jean Chabot, and each of them, and others on their behalf, did give or cause to be given, loans of sums of money, and also offices, places, and employments, gratuities and rewards, and bonds, bills and notes and conveyance of lands and other property, and promises of the same to divers of the said electors in consideration of and for the purpose of corrupting them to give their vote for the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, and to divers others of the said electors to forbear to give their

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votes for the said George Okill Stuart, George Honoré Simard, and Hypolite Dubord,



and as a compensation to divers other electors for their loss of time and expenses in going to and returning from voting, and on divers other pretences: That the Petitioners do further represent, that on the day of nomination aforesaid, at the said City of Quebec, the said Jean Chabot, and Pierre Joseph Olivier Chauveau, the former of whom was then Commissioner of Public Works for the said Province, and the latter Provincial Secretary, did organize by and through the instrumentality of divers persons holding offices of profit and emolument under the Provincial Government and others, gangs of persons for the purpose of preventing the free and open expression of opinion at and during the said Election, and before, during and after the period between the day of nomination and the polling days at the said Election, and by means of the gangs of persons aforesaid, the said Jean Chabot and Pierre Joseph Olivier Chauveau did prevent the said George Okill Stuart, George Honoré Simard, and Hypolite Dubord from addressing the electors at the said nomination, and did then and there interfere with the freedom of the said Election: That the Petitioners do further represent, that the said persons employed as aforesaid, and the gangs of persons aforesaid, were at the said Election acting under the observation and with the approbation of the said Jean Chabot and Pierre Joseph Olivier Chauveau, and they did, then and there, commit acts of violence upon divers subjects of Her Majesty, and did attempt to force the said George Okill Stuart, George Honoré Simard and the said Hypolite Dubord, from the place where they were addressing the said electors at the said Election, and did then prevent the said George Okill Stuart, George Honoré Simard, and Hypolite Dubord, from expressing their political opinions and sentiments; and the said Jean Chabot and Pierre Joseph Olivier Chauveau as Ministers of the Crown did act as partizans at the said Election, and with other Ministers of the Crown did directly and indirectly before, during and at the time of the said Election use and exert the influence of their respective offices to intimidate and bribe divers of the electors of the said City, to compel some electors to vote and to prevent others from voting: That the Petitioners do further represent, that the said Jean Chabot being, at the time of the said Election, Commissioner of Public Works, did through the power of his said office and by means of Government contracts and other means of corruption at his disposal before, at, and during the said Election, directly and indirectly, by himself and his authorized agents, corrupt and bribe divers electors to vote for the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, and each of them, which acts of bribery and corruption the said Jean Blanchet and Charles Alleyn did participate in and sanction: That the Petitioners do further represent, that divers persons purporting to be electors voting at the several polling places at the said Election whose names are recorded in the Poll Books kept by the Deputy Returning Officers, as having voted at the said Election for the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, and for each of them, being in number one thousand and upwards, never gave their votes at all and knew not in favor of whom their votes were recorded as votes given at the said Election, and that, on the contrary, when asked or called upon by the Deputy Returning Officer or Officers to say in favor of whom they voted or intended to vote, such persons declared that they did not know, but handed up tickets on which the names of the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot had been previously written or printed, placed in the hands of such persons, severally and respectively, by the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, or others in their interest or intriguing on their behalf at the said Election, which said tickets the said persons were unable to read or understand, but from which the Deputy Returning Officers read and recorded the vote, such mode of voting being subversive of the free and open expression of the opinions of the electors, exposing them to surprise, deception and fraud,

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and being also in direct violation of the Laws and Statutes regulating Elections, and in truth and in fact numbers of the persons who so voted were deceived and cheated by the falsehoods and representations of the parties by whom such illegal tickets were thrust into their hands before, or as they appeared at the polling places respectively, and were made to vote in direct opposition to their real views and wishes, in which particulars and many others the Laws and Statutes of this Province have been and were from the commencement to the close of the said Election violated and set at naught: That the Petitioners do further represent that a large majority of legal votes were recorded at the said Election in favor of the said George Okill Stuart, George Honoré Simard, and Hypolite Dubord, and of each of them, that upwards of a thousand of the votes recorded in favor of the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot and of each of them, were those of persons not possessing, at the time of the said Election, the qualification required by Law to vote thereat, that many persons voted as often as twenty times in favor of the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot at the said Election, that many persons who were not qualified to vote did vote for the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, and had not been in actual and uninterrupted possession of the lands and tenements upon which they claimed and pretended to be entitled to vote as proprietors, and were not tenants according to the intent and meaning of the Statute in such case made and provided: That the majority obtained by the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, by means of the premises, was apparent and colorable only, and was and is fictitious and fraudulent, and that the majority of good and legal votes polled and tendered at the said Election was in favor of the said George Okill Stuart, George Honoré Simard, and Hypolite Dubord, and each of them, who ought to have been duly elected and returned as Members for the said City instead of the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, and by reason of the premises the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot were unduly and illegally proclaimed as having been duly elected Members to represent the said City in the said Legislative Assembly, and the pretended Election of them the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot was and is, by reason of the premises, null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever; and praying that the House will be pleased to take the premises into consideration, and to find and declare that the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, nor any or either of them, ought to have been elected or returned as a Member to serve in Parliament for the said City, and that the said George Okill Stuart, George Honoré Simard, and Hypolite Dubord, and each of them, were duly elected and ought to have been returned as such Members as aforesaid, and that thereupon the House will direct the Return for the said City to be amended accordingly, by erasing therefrom the names of the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot, and each of them, by inserting instead thereof the names of the said George Okill Stuart, George Honoré Simard, and Hypolite Dubord, and of each of them, or that the House will declare the Election and Return of the said Jean Blanchet, Charles Alleyn, and Jean Chabot null and void, or direct a new Writ to issue for the Election of three Members to serve in Parliament for the said City, and that the House will grant to the Petitioners such other and further relief in the premises as to the House shall seem meet.

Of the Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge Company; praying for the passing of an Act to increase their Capital Stock.

Of the Reverend Antoine Manseau and others, of the County of Joliette; and of E.B.G. De Lanaudière, Esquire, and others, of the County of Joliette; praying for the establishment of a Circuit Court at the Village of Industry, the



County seat of the said County.

Of R.N. Webber and others, of the Townships of Shipton and Melbourne, Dis-

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trict of St. Francis; praying for an Act of Incorporation, under the name of The St. Francis College.

Of the Trustees of the Academy of St. André d'Argenteuil; praying for aid.

Of the Montreal and Vermont Junction Railway Company; praying for certain amendments to their Charter.

Of Miss Eliza Taylor, Secretary, on behalf of the Committee of Ladies conducting the Protestant Female Orphan Asylum at Quebec; praying for aid in behalf of the said Institution.

Of E.W. Carter and others, of the Municipality of William Henry; praying that the Petition of the said Municipality for the passing of an Act to incorporate the said Town under the name of The Town of Sorel may not be granted.

Of the Committee of Management of the Montreal Industrial House of Refuge; praying for aid.

Of G. Houle and others, of the Township of Warwick; and of A.B. Lafrenière, Esquire, and others, of St. Guillaume; praying for certain amendments to the Municipal Law, and the consolidation of the Road Laws of Lower Canada.

Of A. Labrecque and others, of the Township of Warwick; and of T. Paradis and others, of the Parish of St. Guillaume d'Upton; praying that the United Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska may be separated, and each entitled to send a Representative to Parliament.

Of A. Boisvert and others, of the Township of Warwick; praying that compensation may be provided for Jurors attending the Courts in Lower Canada.

Of Pierre Marcotte and others, of the Township of Warwick; praying that those persons who have settled in the Eastern Townships coming under the name of Squatters, may be protected by Law in the rights they have so acquired.

Of Pierre Croteau and others, of the Township of Warwick, County of Arthabaska; praying that the annual Provincial grant for Public Education may be increased to one hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

Of the Municipal Council of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell; praying for the passing of an Act to amend the Act incorporating the Vaudreuil and Vankleek Hill Railway Company, so as to extend the said Line of Railway to the Town of Bytown.

Of the Reverend L.H. Brassard and others, of the Parish of Longueuil; praying for aid in behalf of a Male and a Female Educational Establishment in the said Parish.

Of Thomas Devaney of the Township of Inverness, in the County of Megantic, Farmer, Adam Bailey and John Ross, both of the Township of Leeds, in the same County, Farmers, and Robert Rickaby, William Gunston, William F. Rickaby and John Smith, all of the Township of Inverness, aforesaid, Farmers; setting forth: That under and in virtue of Her Majesty's Writ of Election bearing date at the City of Quebec, on the twenty-third day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, issued for the Election of a Member to represent the County of Megantic in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, an Election was opened and began in the Township of Leeds, in the said County, on the twentieth day of July in the said year, being the nomination day for the said Election, by John R. Lambly, Esquire, Registrar of the first Division of the said County, being and acting as the Returning Officer for the said Election: That at and before the day of the date of the said Writ of Election, and at and during the time of the said Election, the Petitioners were and have since continued to be and still are electors of and voters for the said County,



and as such had a right to vote and did vote at the said Election for a Member to serve in the Provincial Parliament for said County of Megantic: That John Greaves Clapham, of the said City of Quebec, Esquire, and William Rhodes, of Benmore, in the vicinity of the said City of Quebec, Esquire, were Candidates at the said Election, and that the aforesaid William Rhodes was by the said

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John R. Lambly, Returning Officer as aforesaid, returned as duly elected to represent the said County as aforesaid: That the Petitioners at the time of the said Election entered a Protest against the said Election and Return, but which Protest was not acted on or entertained by the said Returning Officer: That the said William Rhodes was illegally and unduly returned to represent the said County in the said Provincial Parliament, by the said John R. Lambly: That by an Act passed on the twelfth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to repeal certain Acts therein mentioned, and to amend, consolidate and reduce into one Act the several Statutory provisions now in force for the regulation of Elections of Members to represent the People of this Province in the Legislative Assembly thereof," it was and is in the sixteenth Section thereof, among other things enacted, that when at any such Election for a County, Riding, City or Town, a Poll shall have been demanded and granted in the manner provided by the said Act, the Returning Officer immediately after having granted such Poll, and before adjourning his proceedings, shall publicly proclaim from the hustings, the day previously fixed in and by his first proclamation and the place at which the Poll shall be so opened separately in each Parish, Township or Union of Townships, or Ward or part of a Ward or Township, (as the case may be,) for the purpose of then and there taking and recording the votes of the electors according to Law, and the said Returning Officer shall allow at least six days, and not more than ten, to elapse between the day so by him fixed as aforesaid for opening the Election and the day by him fixed for opening the Poll at separate places as aforesaid: That the said John R. Lambly, Returning Officer as aforesaid, did not allow six days to elapse between the day by him fixed for opening the said Election and the day by him fixed for opening the Poll at separate places as aforesaid, but on the contrary allowed five days and no more to elapse between the day so by him fixed as aforesaid for opening the Election and the day by him fixed for opening the Poll at separate places as aforesaid, that is to say, the said Election having been opened and begun in the Township of Leeds, in the said County, on Thursday the twentieth day of July now last past, being the nomination day for the said Election by the said John R. Lambly, being and acting as the Returning Officer as aforesaid, and a Poll having been demanded and granted on that day, the said Returning Officer, after having granted such Poll, and before adjourning his proceedings, did publicly proclaim from the hustings, Wednesday the twenty-sixth day of the same month of July as the day previously fixed in and by his first Proclamation for the purpose of then taking and recording the votes of the electors according to Law at the places at which the Polls should be opened separately in each Township in the said County, and that in truth and in fact the Poll at the separate places as aforesaid was opened, and the votes of the Electors at the said Election were taken and recorded on the said twenty-sixth day of July, the said Returning Officer thereby allowing but five days to elapse between the nomination day aforesaid, to wit: the said twentieth and the said twenty-sixth days of July, and that by reason of such irregular and illegal proceedings of the said Returning Officer, and by reason of the taking and recording of the votes of the electors at the said Election before the period at which they could be legally taken and recorded, the said votes

were absolutely thrown away and null and void, and the pretended Election of the said William Rhodes for the said County, was and is null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever: That there never has been any Election for the said County according to the requirements of the said Writ, and of the provisions of the Statute aforesaid: That the said William Rhodes was furthermore illegally and unduly returned to represent the said County in Parliament by the said John R. Lambly, because the said William Rhodes after the teste of the Writ for the said Election, and at and during the said Election, and before the Return of the said William Rhodes at such Election, did directly and indirectly, by himself and by his authorized agents, employ divers means

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of corruption by giving sums of money, offices, places, employments, gratuities, rewards and bonds, bills and notes, and conveyances of lands and promises of the same to divers electors of the said County whose votes have been given and recorded in favor of him the said William Rhodes, and by threatening divers others of the said electors with the loss of their offices, salaries, incomes and advantages, with the intent to corrupt and bribe divers of the said electors to vote for him the said William Rhodes, and to keep back divers others of them from voting for him the said John Greaves Clapham, and that the said William Rhodes did, during the period aforesaid, by the said means of corruption, corrupt and bribe divers of the said electors to vote for him the said William Rhodes, and divers others of them to keep back from voting for the said John Greaves Clapham, and that the said William Rhodes did open and support, and did cause to be opened and supported at his cost and charges, houses of public entertainment for the accommodation of the electors; and he the said William Rhodes, and other persons in his behalf did, with intent to promote his Election, provide and furnish entertainment at his expense to divers meetings of electors assembled for the purpose of promoting such Election, and did pay for, promise and engage to pay for such entertainment, which entertainment was not furnished at the said meetings of electors by or at the expense of the said William Rhodes or other person or persons in his or her or their behalf, at her or their usual place of residence: That the Petitioners do further represent, that the said William Rhodes and others on his behalf, did give or cause to be given, loans of sums of money, and also offices, places and employments, gratuities and rewards, and bonds, bills and notes and conveyances of land and other property, and promises of the same to divers of the said electors, in consideration of, and for the purpose of corrupting them to give their votes for the said William Rhodes, and to divers others of the said electors to forbear to give their votes for John Greaves Clapham aforesaid, and as a compensation to divers other electors for their loss of time and expenses in going to and returning from voting, and on divers other pretences: That the Petitioners do further represent, that divers of the said electors when they presented themselves at the Poll in the Township of Halifax, did not know even the name of the person for whom they had been called upon and directed to vote, but were assisted and directed in so doing by Andrew Bezeau, Esquire, the representative of the said William Rhodes, and Mr. John Johnson, the Deputy Returning Officer, before and during the Election violent partizans of the said William Rhodes: That the Petitioners further represent, that a large majority of legal votes were recorded at the said Election in favor of the said John Greaves Clapham, that more than three hundred votes recorded in favor of the said William Rhodes were those of persons not possessing at the time of the said Election the qualification required by Law to vote thereat, that many persons voted more than once in favor of the said William Rhodes at the said



Election, that many persons who were not qualified to vote did vote for the said William Rhodes, and had not been in actual and uninterrupted possession of the lands and tenements upon which they claimed and pretended to be entitled to vote as proprietors according to the intent and meaning of the Statute in such case made and provided: That the majority obtained by the said William Rhodes by means of the premises was apparent and colorable only, and was and is fictitious and fraudulent, and that the majority of good and legal votes polled and tendered at the said Election was in favor of the said John Greaves Clapham, who ought to have been duly elected and returned as Member for the said County instead of the said William Rhodes, and by reason of the premises the said William Rhodes was unduly and illegally proclaimed as having been duly elected Member to represent the said County in the said Legislative Assembly, and the pretended Election of him the said William Rhodes was and is by reason of the premises null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever: and praying that the House will be pleased to take the premises into consider-

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ation, and to find and declare that the said William Rhodes ought not to have been duly elected and returned as Member to serve in Parliament for the said County, and that John Greaves Clapham aforesaid was duly elected and ought to have been returned as such Member aforesaid, and that therefore the House will direct the Return for the said County to be amended accordingly, by erasing therefrom the name of William Rhodes, and by inserting instead thereof the name of the said John Greaves Clapham, or that the House will declare the Election and Return of the said William Rhodes null and void, and direct a new Writ to issue for the Election of a Member to serve in Parliament for the said County, and that the House will grant to the Petitioners such other and further relief in the premises as to the House shall seem meet.

Of John Greaves Clapham, of the City of Quebec, Esquire: setting forth: That under and in virtue of Her Majesty's Writ of Election bearing date at the City of Quebec, on the twenty-third day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, issued for the Election of a Member to represent the County of Megantic in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, an Election was opened and began in the Township of Leeds, in the said County, on the twentieth day of July in the said year, being the nomination day for the said Election by John R. Lambly, Esquire, Registrar of the first Division of the said County, being and acting as the Returning Officer for the said Election: That at and during the time of the said Election, the Petitioner was a Candidate at the said Election, together with William Rhodes, of Benmore, in the vicinity of Quebec, Esquire, who was by the said John R. Lambly, Returning Officer as aforesaid, returned as duly elected to represent the said County as aforesaid: That at the time of the said Election, and before Proclamation made, the Petitioner entered and made a Protest against the said Election and Return, but which Protest was not entertained or acted on by the said Returning Officer: That the said William Rhodes was illegally and unduly returned to represent the said County in the said Provincial Parliament, by the said John R. Lambly, Returning Officer as aforesaid: That by an Act passed in the twelfth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to repeal certain Acts therein mentioned, and to amend, consolidate, and reduce into one Act, the several Statutory provisions now in force for the regulation of Elections of Members to represent the People of this Province in the Legislative Assembly thereof," it was and is in the sixteenth Section thereof among other things enacted, that when at any such Election for a County, Riding, City or Town, a Poll shall have been demanded and granted in the manner provided by the said



Act, the Returning Officer immediately after having granted such Poll, and before adjourning his proceedings, shall publicly proclaim from the hustings the day previously fixed in and by his first proclamation, and the place at which the Poll shall be so opened separately in each Parish, Township, or Union of Townships, or Ward or part of a Ward, or Township (as the case may be) for the purpose of then and there taking and recording the votes of the electors according to Law, and the said Returning Officer shall allow at least six days and not more than ten, to elapse between the day so by him fixed as aforesaid for opening the Election, and the day by him fixed for opening the Poll at separate places as aforesaid: That the said John R. Lambly, Returning Officer as aforesaid, did not allow six days to elapse between the day by him fixed for opening the said Election, and the day by him fixed for opening the Poll at separate places as aforesaid, but on the contrary allowed five days and no more to elapse between the day so by him fixed as aforesaid for opening the Election, and the day by him fixed for opening the Poll at separate places as aforesaid, that is to say, the said Election having been opened and begun in the Township of Leeds, in the said County, on Thursday the twentieth day of July now last past, being the nomination day for the said Election by the said John R. Lambly, being and acting as the Returning Officer as aforesaid, and a

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Poll having been demanded and granted on that day, the said Returning Officer after having granted such Poll and before adjourning his proceedings, did publicly proclaim from the hustings, Wednesday the twenty-sixth day of the same month of July, as the day previously fixed in and by his first proclamation for the purpose of then taking and recording the votes of the electors according to Law, at the places at which the Polls should be opened separately in each Township in the said County, and that in truth and in fact the Poll at the separate places as aforesaid was opened, and the votes of the electors at the said Election were taken and recorded on the said twenty-sixth day of July, the said Returning Officer thereby allowing but five days to elapse between the nomination day aforesaid, to wit: the said twentieth and the said twenty-sixth days of July, and that by reason of such irregular and illegal proceeding of the said Returning Officer, and by reason of the taking and recording of the votes of the electors at the said Election before the period at which they could be legally taken and recorded, the said votes were absolutely thrown away and null and void, and the pretended Election of the said William Rhodes for the said County, was and is null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever: That there never has been any Election for the said County according to the requirements of the said Writ, and of the provisions of the Statute aforesaid: That the said William Rhodes was furthermore illegally and unduly returned to represent the said County in Parliament by the said John R. Lambly, because the said William Rhodes after the teste of the Writ for the said Election, and at and during the said Election and before the return of the said William Rhodes at such Election, did directly and indirectly, by himself and his authorized agents, employ divers means of corruption, by giving sums of money, offices, places, employments, gratuities, rewards and bonds, bills and notes, and conveyances of land and promises of the same to divers electors of the said County whose votes have been given and recorded in favor of him the said William Rhodes, and by threatening divers others of the said electors with the loss of their offices, salaries, incomes and advantages, with the intent to corrupt and bribe divers of the said electors to vote for him the said William Rhodes, and to keep back divers others of them from voting for him the said John Greaves Clapham; and that the said William Rhodes did, during the period aforesaid, by the said

means of corruption, corrupt and bribe divers of the said electors to vote for him the said William Rhodes, and divers others of them to keep back from voting for the said John Greaves Clapham, and that the said William Rhodes did open and support, and did cause to be opened and supported at his cost and charges, houses of public entertainment for the accommodation of the electors, and he the said William Rhodes and other persons in his behalf did, with intent to promote his Election, provide and furnish entertainment at his expense to divers meetings of electors assembled for the purpose of promoting such Election, and did pay for, promise and engage to pay for such entertainment, which entertainment was not furnished at the said meetings of electors by or at the expense of the said William Rhodes, or other person or persons, on his, her or their behalf, at his, her or their usual place or places of residence: That the Petitioner doth further represent that the said William Rhodes and others on his behalf, did give or cause to be given, loans of sums of money, and also offices, places and employments, gratuities and rewards and bonds, bills and notes, and conveyances of land and other property, and promises of the same to divers of the said electors, in consideration of and for the purpose of corrupting them to give their vote for the said William Rhodes, and to divers others of the said electors to forbear to give their votes for John Greaves Clapham aforesaid, and as a compensation to divers other electors for their loss of time and expenses in going to and returning from voting, and on divers other pretences: That the Petitioner doth further represent, that divers of the said electors, when they presented themselves at the Poll in the Township of Halifax, did not know even the name of the person for whom they had been call-

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ed upon and directed to vote, but were assisted and directed in so doing by Andrew Bezeau, Esquire, the representative thereat of the said William Rhodes, and Mr. John Johnson, the Deputy Returning Officer, both of them, before and during the Election, violent partizans of the said William Rhodes: That the Petitioner doth further represent, that a large majority of legal votes were recorded at the said Election in favor of the said John Greaves Clapham; that more than three hundred votes recorded in favor of the said William Rhodes were those of persons not possessing at the time of the said Election, the qualification required by Law to vote thereat; that many persons voted more than once in favor of the said William Rhodes at the said Election; that many persons who were not qualified to vote, did vote for the said William Rhodes, and had not been in actual and uninterrupted possession of the lands and tenements upon which they claimed and pretended to be entitled to vote as proprietors according to the intent and meaning of the Statute in such case made and provided: That the majority obtained by the said William Rhodes by means of the premises, was apparent and colorable only, and was and is fictitious and fraudulent, and that the majority of good and legal votes polled and tendered at the said Election was in favor of the said John Greaves Clapham, the Petitioner, who ought to have been duly elected and returned as Member for the said County instead of the said William Rhodes, and by reason of the premises the said William Rhodes was unduly and illegally proclaimed as having been duly elected Member to represent the said County in the said Legislative Assembly, and the pretended Election of him the said William Rhodes was and is, by reason of the premises, null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever; and praying that the House will be pleased to take the premises into consideration, and to find and declare that the said William Rhodes ought not to have been duly elected and returned as Member to serve in Parliament for the said County, and that John Greaves Clapham, as aforesaid, the Petitioner, was duly elected, and ought to



have been returned as such Member aforesaid, and that therefore the House will direct the Return of the said County to be amended accordingly, by erasing therefrom the name of William Rhodes, and by inserting instead thereof the name of the said John Greaves Clapham, the Petitioner, or that the House will declare the Election and Return of the said William Rhodes null and void, and direct a new Writ to issue for the Election of a Member to serve in the Parliament for the said County; and that the House will grant to the Petitioner such other and further relief in the premises as to the House shall seem meet.

Of Benjamin Seymour, of Bath, in the Incorporated County of Lenox and Addington, Esquire, and others, Electors for the said County; setting forth: That at the last Election for the Incorporated County of Lenox and Addington of a Member to represent the said County in the present Parliament, David Roblin, Esquire, and the Petitioner, the said Benjamin Seymour, were the Candidates, and that the other Petitioners are, and at the time of the said Election were, electors of the said County having a right to vote at the Election to which this Petition relates, and that they voted for the said Benjamin Seymour at the said Election: That at the said Election the said David Roblin was declared and returned as duly elected by the Returning Officer, on which occasion one of the Petitioners tendered a protest against the Return of the said David Roblin: That a majority of legal votes was recorded at the said Election in favor of the said Benjamin Seymour, and that the majority of the said David Roblin is only a colorable one, being composed of persons not entitled to the franchise: That at the Poll held in the Township of Sheffield, the Deputy Returning Officer, at a quarter before three o'clock in the afternoon of the last day of polling, admitted a large number of persons to vote for the said David Roblin, indiscriminately, and without regard to their property qualification: That eighty or more of such persons not being freeholders entitled to the franchise did vote at such Election, and that the said votes were recorded by the Deputy

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Returning Officer for the said David Roblin: That at the several Polls held in the several Townships composing the said United Counties, large numbers of aliens and other persons not entitled to vote were allowed to vote and did vote for the said David Roblin: That at the said several Polls large numbers of persons who were entitled to vote and tendered their votes in favor of the said Benjamin Seymour were rejected, their votes refused, and they were thereby disfranchised: That threats, intimidation and violence were used and excited towards the friends, voters and supporters of the said Benjamin Seymour during the Election, and many persons entitled to vote were thereby prevented and deterred from voting for the said Benjamin Seymour: That the said David Roblin, his agents and supporters were guilty of bribery at the said Election, by giving and tendering money to divers voters to vote for the said David Roblin at said Election, and did also promise and tender to divers voters and persons entitled to vote at said Election, other rewards in consideration that they would vote for the said David Roblin: and praying that the House will take this Petition into consideration, and declare the Return of the said David Roblin, Esquire, to be illegal and void, and that the said Benjamin Seymour may be declared duly elected, and may be substituted in the place of the said David Roblin, as Member to represent the said incorporated County of Lenox and Addington, that all votes illegally rejected be added to the Poll Books, and all votes illegally allowed be removed therefrom, or that the Petitioners may have such other relief in the premises as the nature of the case requires and deserves.

Of Télesphore Fournier, Esquire, Advocate, of the City of Quebec, a Candidate for the County of Montmagny at the last General Election, and as such duly



qualified, and François Tétu, Esquire, Provincial Surveyor, and Magloire Tétu, Cultivator, both of the Parish of St. Thomas, District of Quebec; setting forth: That at the last Election in the County of Montmagny of a Member to represent the said County in the present Parliament, being a General Election which took place in the said County in the month of July last, Napoléon Casault, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, Advocate, and the Petitioner, Télesphore Fournier, were the Candidates, and the other Petitioners promoters of the said Election, were then and thence up to the present time, have been and are now electors and voters in the said County duly qualified and entitled to vote at the Election to which this Petition relates, and that they voted for the said Télesphore Fournier at the said Election; that a Poll having been demanded and granted, the polling took place on the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh days of July last, and that at the close of the said Election, to wit: on the first day of August last, the said Napoléon Casault was declared and returned by the Returning Officer as having been duly elected to represent the said County, notwithstanding the Protest in writing delivered to the Returning Officer by Télesphore Fournier, Candidate, and one of the Petitioners against the Return in favor of the said Napoléon Casault, to which Protest the Returning Officer refused to conform: That the Petitioners sincerely believe and affirm, that a large majority of the legal votes were registered at the said Election in favor of the said Télesphore Fournier, and that the majority obtained by the said Napoléon Casault was only fictitious and composed of illegal votes, and that moreover two hundred and more who registered their votes for the said Napoléon Casault either had no right to the elective franchise or were disqualified and incapacitated from voting by reason of bribery, violence and corruption: That at least two hundred persons registered their votes at the said Election in favor of the said Napoléon Casault without possessing any of the qualifications required by the Statutes in force in that behalf, to wit: without having been in possession for their own use and benefit as proprietors, by virtue of legal titles transferring to and vesting the same in them either in fee simple or in freehold under the tenure of free and common socage, or in fief or in roture, or in franc aleu, or by virtue of certificates

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derived under the authority of the Governor and Council of the late Province of Quebec, or by virtue of any Act or Acts of the Legislature of either of the late Provinces of Upper or Lower Canada, or of the Legislature of Canada, of any lands or tenements lying and being in such County, and of the clear yearly value of forty-four shillings and five pence and one farthing currency, (equal at the time of the passing of the Act of the Imperial Parliament passed in the thirty-first year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Third, commonly called "The Constitutional Act," to forty shillings sterling) or upwards, over and above all annual rents, whether ground rents (rentes foncières) or constituted rents (rentes constituées) or any other rents and charges payable out of or in respect of the same, and without being at the time such persons respectively gave their votes at such Election in actual and uninterrupted possession of such lands or tenements, or in the receipt of the rents or profits thereof, as proprietors as aforesaid, by virtue of and under a legal title for their own use and benefit during at least the six calendar months next before the date of the Writ of Election, to wit: before the twenty-third day of June last, and without having become possessed of such lands or property by descent or inheritance, or by devise, marriage or contract of marriage, and without being in possession of any deed or instrument in writing containing a promise of sale (promesse de vente) in their favor, and without being in possession of any prop-

erty described in any title or other instrument in writing as aforesaid, or without having any title or instrument in writing containing a promise of sale as aforesaid in favor of the persons who had transferred to the said voters the property mentioned in such titles or instruments in writing, which might be considered for the purposes of the Act as a legal title vesting such property in the persons who so voted as aforesaid, and without such Notarial deed or instrument having been enregistered at least twelve months before the said Election, and without the said voters possessing any of the other qualifications required by Law to vote at the said Election: That the said Napoléon Casault, so being as aforesaid a Candidate at the said Election for the County of Montmagny, did employ both directly and indirectly various means of corruption by giving sums of money, offices, places, employments, gratuities and rewards, and also bonds, bills or notes, and conveyances of lands and promises of the same to divers electors having votes in the said County, to wit: to two hundred of the said electors and more, and did threaten divers other electors of the said County, to wit: two hundred and more of the electors of the said County, with the loss of offices, salaries, incomes, and advantages then and there possessed by the said electors, both by himself and his authorized agents for that purpose, with the intent to corrupt and bribe the said first mentioned electors to vote for him the said Napoléon Casault as such Candidate as aforesaid, and to keep back such electors from voting for the said Télesphore Fournier, the other Candidate at the said Election: That the said Napoléon Casault being a Candidate as aforesaid, did open and support and did cause to be opened and supported at his own cost and charges, several houses of public entertainment for the reception of the electors for the said County, in which said houses of public entertainment and divers other places in the said County he did provide and furnish and did cause to be provided and furnished large quantities of spirituous liquors and other provisions to the said electors, with the intent to corrupt them and to bribe them to vote for him: That the said Napoléon Casault, his agents and partizans as aforesaid, by the employment of similar means and by threats as aforesaid, and other informal, corrupt and illegal practices, did obtain an informal majority over the said Télesphore Fournier, the other Candidate, by means whereof he was informally and illegally returned as the Representative in Parliament of the said County of Montmagny: That at the said Election for the County of Montmagny divers persons gave and caused to be given and lent divers sums of money, and divers gifts and rewards, and gave divers bonds and notes, and made divers conveyances of land and other property, and promised the same to divers electors with the intent to engage

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them to vote for the said Napoléon Casault, Candidate as aforesaid, and to dissuade them from giving their votes for the said Télesphore Fournier, the other Candidate, and as compensation to the said electors for their loss of time and expenses in going to vote and returning from so doing: That the said Napoléon Casault, by the means of corruption herein above last referred to, obtained an informal majority over the said Télesphore Fournier, Candidate at the said Election, by means whereof he was unduly and illegally returned as the Representative in Parliament of the said County of Montmagny: That the said Napoléon Casault, Candidate as aforesaid for the representation of the said County of Montmagny, with the intent to promote his Election, did provide and furnish for the entertainment, at his expense, of divers meetings of electors assembled for the purpose of promoting the said Election, and did pay and cause to be paid, and did engage to pay for the said entertainment; and that divers other persons with the intent to promote the election of the said Napoléon Casault,



Candidate for the representation of the said County, did provide and furnish at their own expense for the entertainment of divers meetings of electors assembled for the purpose of promoting the said Election, both before and during the Election at which the said Napoléon Casault was Candidate as aforesaid, and did pay and promise to pay for the said entertainment, and did provide therefor as aforesaid; that the said Napoléon Casault, by means of the corruption, bribery and entertainment above mentioned, obtained an informal majority over Télesphore Fournier, the other Candidate at the said Election, by means whereof he has been unduly and illegally returned as the Representative in Parliament of the said County of Montmagny: That the Petitioners further humbly allege and affirm that at the last Election of a Member to serve in Parliament for the said County of Montmagny, the Petitioners were entitled to vote, and did vote at the said Election, saving and excepting the said Télesphore Fournier: That before and after the attesting and issuing of the Writ for the holding of the said Election, and also during and after the said Election, the said Napoléon Casault did himself, and by his agents, friends, leaders, partizans and others in his name, by divers ways and means, directly and indirectly give, present and grant to the persons having votes at the said Election, money, intoxicating liquors, provisions, entertainment and rewards, and promises, agreements and obligations, and bonds to pay and grant money, intoxicating liquors, provisions, entertainment and rewards and promises, to and for such persons, in order that he the said Napoléon Casault might be elected, and being so elected might serve in the present Parliament for the County of Montmagny: That the said Napoléon Casault himself, and his agents, friends, leaders, partizans and others in his name, have been guilty of extensive and systematic bribery, entertainment and practices of corruption in order to persuade persons having or claiming to have the right of voting at the said Election to vote for the said Napoléon Casault, and to abstain from giving their votes for the said Télesphore Fournier: and that the said bribery and the said corrupt practices took place openly and notoriously in the said County, and were well known to the electors thereof; that the Return of the said Napoléon Casault was obtained by the said corrupt and illegal practices, and that therefore the said Election and Return of the said Napoléon Casault were and are absolutely null and void; and praying that they may be declared so to be: That the Petitioners further humbly represent, that Joseph Marmet, Esquire, the Returning Officer for the said County, did neglect to post up or cause to be posted up the proclamations according to Law, in the most frequented places in the Township of Potton and that part of the Township of Armagh which is now within the limits of the County of Montmagny, in order to give notice to the electors of the days on which and the places at which the said Election would be held: That inasmuch as the said part of the Township of Armagh belonging to the County of Montmagny,

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and containing at the date of the Writ for the holding of the said Election, to wit: the twenty-third day of June last, more than two hundred electors qualified to vote at the Election of a Member to represent the said County in Parliament, was entitled to have a Poll within its limits for voting purposes at the said Election, and that no such Poll was allowed by the Returning Officer for that locality, and that in consequence of not being provided with a Poll in the aforesaid part of the Township of Armagh, a considerable number of electors residing therein and entitled to and desirous of voting in their locality, and being only entitled to vote on account of property situate in the aforesaid part of the Township of Armagh, and of others having the right and being by Law obliged to vote in that locality and who were desirous of voting therein for



the said Télesphore Fournier, were deprived of the opportunity of giving their votes in his favor, by reason whereof the said Napoléon Casault did obtain an undue advantage over the said Télesphore Fournier, by means whereof the said Napoléon Casault was unduly and illegally elected Representative in Parliament for the County of Montmagny; that in consequence also of the absence of a Poll in the aforesaid part of the Township of Armagh, the said Election and Return in favor of the said Napoléon Casault are altogether and absolutely pleno jure null and of none effect; and praying that the same may be annulled, and the said Election and Return declared null and of no effect whatsoever: That inasmuch as at several of the Polls held and opened in the said County of Montmagny, during the said Election, to wit: in the Parishes of St. Pierre and St. François de la Rivière du Sud, the voting was illegally prevented and suspended during considerable periods of time by adjournments of the Polls and other interruptions by the Deputy Returning Officers during the hours for voting fixed by Law, and that the Polls were not held and kept open in the Parishes aforesaid according to Law during two days for the registration of the votes of the electors, from nine o'clock in the forenoon until five o'clock in the afternoon of each of the said days, and that in consequence of these adjournments and interruptions a considerable number of electors, more than sufficient to change the result of the said Election, who were present at the Poll and desirous of voting for the said Télesphore Fournier, offered themselves, both during, before, and after the said adjournments and interruptions for the purpose of registering their votes, and were deprived of the benefit of so doing, the said Napoléon Casault did obtain an undue advantage over the said Télesphore Fournier, by means whereof the said Napoléon Casault was unduly and illegally elected to represent in Parliament the County of Montmagny; that by reason also of the closing of the Polls in the Parishes aforesaid of St. Pierre and St. Thomas (sic) de la Rivière du Sud, the said Election and Return in favor of the said Napoléon Casault are all together and absolutely pleno jure null and of none effect; and praying that the same be annulled, and the said Election and Return declared null and of no effect whatsoever: That inasmuch as the Poll opened for the said Election in the Parish of St. Pierre de la Rivière du Sud, as appears on the face of the Poll Book kept for the said Parish, was illegally adjourned by Godefroy Blais, Esquire, in the presence of witnesses who have signed conjointly with him to attest the said adjournment (the said Godefroy Blais, Esquire, being Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish) from the hour of noon until two o'clock in the afternoon on the twenty-sixth day of July, the first day of polling for the said Election for the County of Montmagny, and that in consequence of this adjournment and interruption in the voting, some electors who desired to vote for the said Télesphore Fournier having presented themselves at the Poll during, before, and after that time, to have their votes registered in his favor, were deprived of the benefit of so doing; and other electors, moreover, being present at the Poll at the time of the said adjournment and desiring also to have their votes registered in favor of the said Télesphore Fournier, could not do so on account of the said adjournment, wherefore the said Napoléon Casault did obtain an undue

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advantage over the said Télesphore Fournier, by means whereof the said Napoléon Casault has been informally and illegally elected the Representative in Parliament of the County of Montmagny; that further, on account of the adjournment of the Poll in the said Parish of St. Pierre de la Rivière du Sud, the said Election and Return in favor of the said Napoléon Casault are altogether and absolutely pleno jure null and of none effect; and praying the annulling thereof,

and that the said Election and Rreturn (sic) be declared null and of none effect whatsoever: That inasmuch as the Poll opened for the said Election in the Parish of St. François de la Rivière du Sud was illegally adjourned and closed by Jean Olivier Fraser, Esquire, the Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish, on the twenty-sixth day of July last, the first day of polling, from the hour of noon until a quarter past one in the afternoon, that the voting at the said Poll was illegally and fraudulently stopped and suspended during the whole of the said period of time, at the suggestion of the said Napoléon Casault, and of his agents and representatives at the Poll of the said Parish, and of his partizans, with the sole intent of preventing the numerous partizans of the said Télesphore Fournier from registering their votes in his favor, that during the whole of that period of time the said Deputy Returning Officer did not register any vote, and absented himself from the Poll with his Poll Clerk, that no Poll was held and opened in the Parish aforesaid by the said Deputy Returning Officer in conformity with the Law for two days, for the enregistration of the votes of the electors from nine o'clock in the morning until five o'clock in the afternoon of each of the said days, that in consequence of this adjournment and interruption in the voting a considerable number of the electors then present at the Poll, more than sufficient to change the result of the said Election, and who were desirous of voting for the said Télesphore Fournier, were unable so to do on account of the said adjournment and the interruption in the polling, wherefore the said Napoléon Casault did obtain an undue advantage over the said Télesphore Fournier, by means whereof he has been informally and illegally elected Representative in the Parliament for the County of Montmagny; that by reason also of the adjournment of the Poll in the aforesaid Parish of St. François de la Rivière du Sud, the said Election and Return in favor of the said Napoléon Casault are altogether and absolutely pleno jure null and of none effect; and praying the annulling thereof, and that the said Election and Return may be declared null and of none effect whatsoever: That inasmuch as on the twenty-seventh day of the aforesaid month of July, the second day fixed for the registration of votes in the aforesaid Parish of St. François de la Rivière du Sud, the Poll held and opened in the said Parish for the Election aforesaid, was also closed and adjourned about the hour of noon by Jean Olivier Fraser, the Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish, for more than an hour, and this at the suggestion and instigation of the said Napoléon Casault, and of his representatives at the Poll and of his partizans, with the sole intent of preventing the numerous partizans of the said Télesphore Fournier from registering their votes in his favor, that during the whole of the said period the said Returning Officer did not register any votes, refused to receive the votes of persons then present and who were desirous of voting for the said Télesphore Fournier, that he absented himself from the said Poll with his Poll Clerk, that a Poll was not held and opened in the Parish aforesaid by the said Deputy Returning Officer, in conformity with the Law, during two days, for the registration of the votes of the electors, from nine o'clock in the forenoon until five o'clock in the afternoon of each of the said days, that in consequence of this adjournment and interruption in the voting a considerable number of the electors then present at the Poll, and more than sufficient to change the result of the said Election, who were desirous of voting for the said Télesphore Fournier, were unable so to do on account of the said adjournment and of the interruption in the polling, the said Napoléon Casault did obtain an undue advantage over the said Télesphore Fournier, by means whereof the said Napoléon Casault

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was informally and illegally elected Representative in Parliament for the said



County of Montmagny; that by reason also of the absence of a Poll in the aforesaid Parish of St. François de la Rivière du Sud, the said Election and Return in favor of the said Napoléon Casault are altogether and absolutely pleno jure null and of none effect; and praying the annulling thereof, and that the said Election and Return be declared null and of none effect whatsoever: That inasmuch as a Poll was not held and opened in the aforesaid Parish of St. François de la Rivière du Sud for the Election aforesaid, on the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh days of July last, the days fixed for voting, during the whole time, to wit: during two days for the registration of the votes of the electors from nine o'clock in the forenoon until five o'clock in the afternoon of each of the said days, as provided by Law, and that the said Poll was not open for a period of time sufficient to admit of all the electors registering their votes; that the voting at the said Polls was illegally stopped and suspended by the partizans of the said Napoléon Casault, and at his instigation and suggestion, with the intent to prevent the partizans of the said Télesphore Fournier from registering their votes in his favor; that the Deputy Returning Officer of the said Parish allowed a considerable period of time to be lost by permitting the partizans of the said Napoléon Casault to put to the voters a great number of illegal and useless questions, and to make useless entries in the Poll Book, to the great prejudice of the said Télesphore Fournier; that further, in the afternoon of the second day of voting, to wit: on the twenty-seventh day of July last, the partizans of the said Napoléon Casault, with the intent of promoting his Election, and to prejudice the coming forward of the said Télesphore Fournier, caused a long interruption in the polling at a time when the electors were hurrying to vote, by advancing by one hour the Clock of the Parsonage House of the Parish aforesaid, by which the said Deputy Returning Officer timed himself in opening the Poll, and by which he had to time himself in closing the same; that the said Clock was so advanced one hour by Vildebond Larue, Esquire, Notary, of the Parish of St. Pierre de la Rivière du Sud, agent and representative of the said Napoléon Casault at the Poll in the Parish of St. François de la Rivière du Sud, that when according to the said Clock so advanced, the hour of five had arrived, although in fact it was only four o'clock in the afternoon or thereabouts, the said Vildebond Larue and other partizans of the said Napoléon Casault summoned the Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish to close the Poll, inasmuch as the hour for so doing had arrived; that this stratagem having been immediately discovered, the Deputy Returning Officer, instead of continuing the polling without interruption, suspended the same in order to send for correct information as to the hour, to the houses in the vicinity, thereby wasting considerable time, during which the voting was suspended while there were electors present who requested or were prepared to register their votes in favor of the said Télesphore Fournier; that in consequence of this stratagem, the hour being already advanced, many of the voters present at the Poll were unable to register their votes, and at the close of the said Poll, in consequence of this interruption, a considerable number of electors remained (more than sufficient to change the result of the said Election) who would have voted for the said Télesphore Fournier, and who were by this means deprived of the opportunity for so doing: That inasmuch as the votes of a great number of the electors who were desirous of voting for the said Télesphore Fournier, and whose names are inscribed in the Poll Book for the aforesaid Parish of St. François, have not been registered and marked for the said Télesphore Fournier by the Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish, who has confined himself to making mention of the objections made to the said votes, and to noting their intention to vote for the said Télesphore Fournier, refusing to put to the said voters the oath of qualification which they were ready to take, that instead of



offering to put the oaths rerequired (sic) by law to the said voters, which oaths

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they were ready to take, the said Deputy Returning Officer, at the suggestion of the partizans and agents of the said Napoléon Casault, required them to make oath to matters altogether irrelevant to the said oaths, or compelled them to take oaths other than those required by Law; and praying that the House will be pleased to order that the Return for the said County be in consequence amended, by striking out therefrom the name of the said Napoléon Casault, and inserting instead thereof the name of Télesphore Fournier, and further that the House will take into its consideration the allegations hereinbefore set out, and declare the Election and Return of the said Napoléon Casault to be null and of none effect, or that the House will do justice to the present Petition, as they may deem expedient.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie, seconded by Mr. Scatcherd,

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before this House, a Copy of the original Agreement to rent for the use of the Legislature from the Grey Nuns, "L'Hospice des Soeurs de la Charité," or Grey Nunnery; and of any claim by the Archbishop of Quebec for the loss sustained by the burning in May last, of the said House; also, any Correspondence between the Government and parties interested, and shewing what Insurance was effected on the said building, when, by whom, and to whom paid.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before this House, a Return shewing the number of Tenants upon Indian Lands, or of persons due the Indian Department, or its Agents, in whole or in part, for lands in Haldimand County by them severally purchased.

Ordered, That the said Addresses be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.

Ordered, That Mr. Darche have leave to bring in a Bill to repeal certain parts of the Ordinances relative to Winter Roads in Lower Canada, in so far as regards the District of Montreal.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday the second day of October next.

Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Cameron have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Acts to secure the Independence of Members of the Legislative Assembly.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Ordered, That Mr. Foley have leave to bring in a Bill to authorize the formation of Railroad Corporations, and to regulate the same.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and ... the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday the third day of October next.

Some conversation arose on a motion to introduce a bill by Mr. Foley, to authorize the municipalities or counties to elect their own officers. The general opinion was in favor of extending the principle.<sup>1</sup>

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Ordered, That Mr. Foley have leave to bring in a Bill to authorize the People of the several Counties of this Province to elect their own County Officers.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday the ninth day of October next.

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Ordered, That Mr. Ferrie have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Naturalization Laws of this Province.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday the second day of October next.<sup>2</sup>

Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Cameron have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Toronto Esplanade Act.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House the following Letter:--

Quebec, 18th September, 1854.

Sir,--Having been returned to serve in the present Provincial Parliament for the County of Renfrew, as well as for the South Riding of the County of Oxford, I beg leave to state to you, for the information of the Legislative Assembly, that it is my intention to elect, and I do elect to sit for the County of Renfrew.

I have the honor therefore respectfully to request, that you will be pleased to communicate my election to serve for the County of Renfrew in the present Parliament, so soon as the rules of the House will permit that communication to be made, in order to allow a new Writ to issue for the South Riding of the County of Oxford.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

To the Honorable

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

F. Hincks.

Ordered, That the Petition of W.S. Griffin and others, of the Village of L'Avenir; and the Petition of Hilaire Allard and others, of the Village of L'Avenir, be printed for the use of the Members of this House.

The Honorable Mr. Morin, from the Select Committee appointed to prepare and report Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this House, reported that they had prepared Lists of Members accordingly; and the same were read, as follow:--

1. On Privileges and Elections.--Mr. Solicitor General Ross, Mr. Foley, Mr. Alleyn, Mr. Crysler, Mr. Burton, Mr. Laberge, Mr. Dufresne, Mr. Frazer, Mr. McCann, Mr. Pouliot, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Blanchet, and Mr. Wilson.

2. On Expiring Laws.--The Honorable Mr. Rolph, Mr. Scatcherd, Mr. Labelle, Mr. Larwill, Mr. Aikins, Mr. Biggar, Mr. Gill, Mr. Yeilding, Mr. Laporte, Mr. O'Farrell, Mr. Charles Daoust, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Dostaler, Mr. Bourassa, Mr. Guévremont, and Mr. Marchildon.

5. (sic) On Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines.--The Honorable Mr. Morin, the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond, the Honorable Mr. Robinson, the Honorable Mr. Hincks, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Cauchon, Mr. Egan, Mr. Papin, Mr. Taché, Mr. Bureau, Mr. Bellingham, Mr. James Smith, the Honorable

John Sandfield Macdonald, the Honorable Mr. Merritt, Mr. Lemieux, and Mr. Joseph Curran Morrison.

4. On Miscellaneous Private Bills.--The Honorable Mr. Cameron, Mr. Polette, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Felton, Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion, Mr. Powell, Mr. Prévost, Mr. Loranger, Mr. Sanborn, Mr. James Ross, Mr. Angus Morrison, Mr. Fergusson, Mr. Huot, and Mr. LeBoutillier.

5. On Standing Orders.--Mr. Langton, Mr. Turcotte, Mr. Sidney Smith, Mr. Hartman, Mr. Murney, Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion, Mr. Casault, Mr. Bowes,

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Mr. Poulin, Mr. McKerlie, Mr. Chapais, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Wright, Mr. Jean Baptiste Daoust, and Mr. Lumsden.

6. On Printing.--Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Terrill, Mr. Brown, Mr. Ferres, Mr. Fournier, the Honorable Mr. Young, Mr. Flint, Mr. Thibaudeau, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Bell, Mr. Daly, Mr. Dionne, Mr. Delong, Mr. Munro, and Mr. Matheson.

7. On Contingencies.--Mr. Roblin, Mr. Galt, Mr. Niles, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Gould, Mr. Valois, Mr. Jobin, Mr. Chisholm, Mr. Church, Mr. Fortier, Mr. Desaulniers, Mr. Darche, Mr. Macbeth, Mr. Roderick McDonald, and Mr. Cooke.

8. On Public Accounts.--Mr. Holton, Mr. Patrick, the Honorable Mr. Young, Mr. Gamble, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Mongenais, Mr. DeWitt, Mr. Masson, Mr. Ferrie, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Mattice, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Somerville, Mr. Southwick, and Mr. Whitney.

The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate upon the Question which was on Wednesday last proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his Speech pronounced from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:

That we thank His Excellency for the satisfaction expressed by him at meeting the Legislature, and that we believe, with His Excellency, that the increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has hitherto existed for the due Representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province:

To assure His Excellency that we will give our best consideration to the subjects of great magnitude and importance which will necessarily come under our consideration during the Session which is now commencing:

That we, in view of the two Acts which the Imperial Parliament, advancing with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed, feel the grave responsibilities thereby imposed on the Canadian Legislature:

That as to the one of these Acts which empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council, although the substitution of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown in the appointment of Members of that body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience, as Parliamentary Government and Ministerial Responsibility in the British sense of the term are for the most part unknown to the Constitution of Countries where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers, we think that in order to give to that important Branch of the Legislature the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some change in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required: and we trust that the difficulties to which His Excellency has referred will be surmounted by our endeavours, and by the patriotism of the Members of that Honorable Body:



That the other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province, we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon

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it expressed in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able, without difficulty, to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction:

That the condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interest both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada, having to look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighbouring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals:

That we will consider the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions of Lower Canada, in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which since its introduction has contributed so materially to the prosperity of Upper Canada; and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. The other subjects of importance upon which measures may be submitted for our deliberation, will be also attentively considered:

That the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, when laid before us, will receive our best attention, and that His Excellency may rely on our readiness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service:

That our attention will be called to the prosperous condition of the Revenue as affording an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect Raw Materials employed in Ship-building and other branches of manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others, to which Articles entering largely into the consumption of the People are now subject:

That we will be glad to receive Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's Subjects in British North America on the one hand, and the Citizens of the United States on the other, and we will consider the propriety of amending the Act passed in eighteen hundred and forty-nine, for the free admission into Canada of certain Articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty:

That we learn with satisfaction that the Government and Congress of the United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and that we are disposed to meet them by a corresponding spirit:

That it is our hope that the removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada into the markets of the United States, will have a

*tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province;*

*And the Question being again proposed:--The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.*

MR. YOUNG rose and in addressing the House, said:--The late Inspector General, in a speech delivered in Canada West, stated in allusion to his (Mr. Y.'s) address to his constituents that he had been actuated in his opposition to him and to the late ministry by personal feelings, but he would take this opportunity of stating that this was not the case--that he had no personal difference with either the late Inspector General or with any member of the late or present ministry.

His opposition to the late ministry was on public grounds alone, and arose from the enunciation by the Premier of the late government of a principle which he considered of vast moment, involving as he (Mr. Young) believed, the character of the country, and the morality of its public men. The late Inspector General, the other evening, had invited the fullest possible enquiry into the various jobs imputed to him, and asked for a committee of investigation but, if fifty committees were appointed there could not be better evidence than that furnished by the late Inspector General (in his evidence in the "Bowes" case of Toronto, before the Chancery Court, and in his statements made in the House during last session, that he as a minister of the Crown, and as Inspector General had the right to buy and sell public stocks and lands for his own account in the same way as any other individual. Leaving on one side all that is said respecting the Point Levi business and take the evidence given by the late Inspector General in Toronto, as follows:--The question is asked, "Had Mr. Bowes, as mayor, proposed to you to buy, sell and negotiate the debentures in question, which you and Mr. Bowes bought from the contractor for the benefit of the city, upon a convention which would have yielded you an equal profit upon the transaction with that you actually made would you have consented to act for the city." The answer to this was as follows:--"I never would have thought under any circumstances, of acting as a mere agent, and demanding the profit which was the legitimate result of a speculation involving great responsibility,--I could not, therefore, if I had acted as an agent, have occupied the position which I did,--I think it very probable that if I had been asked to endeavor to negotiate a loan for the city of Toronto, and had been offered the usual commission, that I would have accepted the proposition at that time, provided I could have done so without interference with my public duties. I have always considered that I have the same right to accept compensation for services rendered to private individuals or corporations, that the Attorney General has to receive fees on his advice, or for advice rendered by him to similar parties." Now, he, Mr. Young, contended that this evidence affirmed the principle of the Inspector General of this country, to do business for his own account, as fully as any committee of enquiry could do. He cared not whether it was the late Inspector General or some one else who was a party to this transaction, nor did he care much about the amount which is said to have been made, all sunk into insignificance when compared with the importance of the principle; and as the present ministry number SIX of the TEN members composing the last ministry, and as the principle alluded to in the evidence of the Inspector General, and in the House of Assembly, must have received the approval of at least a majority of the late ministry, he held the present ministry<sup>3</sup>, au moins la section bas-canadienne,<sup>4</sup> responsible, inasmuch that the majority in the present ministry is composed of a majority of the last. No one of the ministry had yet denied that they did not endorse the opinions of the alte (sic)



Inspector General upon this subject.<sup>5</sup> Rien ne faisait voir que la doctrine démoralisatrice proclamée par le chef du Cabinet, dans le mois de juin dernier, eut été abandonnée.<sup>6</sup> Although the member for Peterborough, in his address, condemned the principle as strongly as himself, yet he was surprised to feel that since he had gone to the opposite side, and joined the new ministry he had made no mention of this matter.<sup>7</sup>

Here MR. LANGTON interrupted Mr. Young, and said he was mistaken, and that he had alluded to it, and condemned the principle.<sup>8</sup>

MR. YOUNG begged pardon of the honorable member for Peterborough, and said that he had mistaken him, but at any rate he was sure that so far no one of the present ministry had done so, nor was it likely they would repudiate the action of their late chief. The question was simply:--could the Inspector General of Canada, while holding a most important trust for the people of Canada, transact business as a broker for his own account.<sup>9</sup> This he called a most outrageous doctrine<sup>10</sup>. He (Mr. Young) believed that if such a doctrine was not at once scouted by this House, and by the people of this country, there would be no end to the amount of corruption which must follow, and he would say more, that in his opinion no one guilty of acting on such a principle, or agreeing to it, was a fit and proper person to hold office under the crown. He (the Speaker) would desire the House to look at the practical working of such a principle. He supposed, although he did not know, yet that judging from the balances as shewn by papers last Session, that there was at this moment about £800,000 in the public chest. One half, or nearly one half of that amount, was laying in interest. The position of the Inspector General gave him a great influence in determining (sic) into what banks this balance should be placed, and if the Inspector General was allowed, as had been the case, to do business upon his own account, then he would say, that in such a position that gentleman could in his official capacity obtain a credit for his private business, which as a private individual he could not by any possibility. By the perusal of the proceeding in the Court in the Bowes case it was there seen that the late Inspector Genl. had a credit open with Glynn, Mills & Co., the eminent bankers in London, for no less a sum than £50,000, a credit which it would be difficult for the best and most responsible merchants in the country to obtain with that house, and one which he thought the late Inspector General could not have obtained but by reason of his official position. Why, it was only the other day that he boasted in that House of being a poor man, and some honorable members would remember that gentleman asking the House "who would give as much for his note as for that of the honorable member for Brockville." Yet, the late Inspector General was now reported to be a rich man, which could not be the case, upon £900 a year. But when they saw the fact that, in one transaction, that gentleman made a profit of £10,000, it was easy to comprehend the sudden change in his circumstances. Now, he, (Mr. Young,) believed that salaries of ministers were miserably low, quite insufficient to allow ministers to live in a style becoming their position, but while he was for allowing ample remuneration, he protested strongly against ministers in any way whatever doing any business for their own account. Let that principle prevail and we should have the commissioners of public works becoming interested in contracts, the Attorney General in suits, all the departments have men seeking office, not from any desire to serve their country, but for the purpose of making a fortune.<sup>11</sup> Further ... to make the financial department of the government a mere broker's office, would injure the business of the regular brokers, for it might in many cases be better to



give the Inspector General four per cent than a broker one per cent.<sup>12</sup> He, (Mr. Young,) would now refer to the reciprocity treaty. The resolutions upon which that measure was originally founded, were brought before the Canadian parliament in 1848, by his honorable friend, the member for Lincoln, and were at that time denounced by the late Inspector General, as containing a principle "in which he had no faith whatever," as one of Mr. Merritt's crotchets, that we should legislate for ourselves, and let the Americans do so likewise; that the opening of the St. Lawrence was absolutely necessary to save Montreal and Quebec from ruin, and that before which, "Mr. Merritt's resolutions on reciprocity sunk into insignificance." A change came over the Inspector General's opinions upon the subject, and the measure is now nearly consummated. The treaty was by no means what it should be, and the reciprocity in practice will be found to have been much over-rated. The Inspector General in his reply to himself, in 1851, upon the question of his resignation, stated that "he did not know, how any men, with British or Canadian feeling, could see the position of our shipping at present without humiliation, their vessels now passed through all our canals and waters, and ours could not enter one of theirs. So that if the St. Lawrence and Champlain canal were opened, things remaining as they are, American vessels would pass from Lake Superior to New York by this navigation, while Canadian vessels would be driven out of the waters." And yet with this conviction in 1851, the Inspector General under the present Treaty has submitted to the humiliation. He had other objections to the Treaty, which he would state at another opportunity.<sup>13</sup> Il reproche à l'administration précédente, dont plusieurs membres sont encore sur les banquettes ministérielles, de n'avoir pas ouvert le St. Laurent aux vaisseaux de toutes les nations il y a huit ans. Ce retard, qui a été grandement préjudiciable aux intérêts commerciaux de cette province, n'était dû qu'à la politique de M. Hincks qui avait eu, sans doute, ses motifs pour priver aussi longtemps le Canada des avantages qu'il aurait retirés en agrandissant ainsi le cercle de ses relations commerciales.<sup>14</sup> He was glad however that the St. Lawrence was now open, and he would not oppose the passage of the Bill. He would however state to the House, that Lower Canada was not prepared to take advantage of the Treaty. Facilities would be given to Western Canada, in trading with the United States, but that trade would not flow through the Saint Lawrence or touch Lower Canada soil, until a Canal was opened up between Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence. With this work completed, and it ought to be completed now, there is no doubt that we should then command and attract through the Saint Lawrence not only the trade of Western Canada but also of the Western States, and until this is done, the full advantage of opening the Saint Lawrence will not be realized, nor will our public works yield that Revenue which they are yet destined to do. In 1849, the whole exports from Canada West with the United States in wheat and flour, was only equal to 24,936 bbls., while the export from Oswego and Ogdensburg alone in 1853 was 587,380 bbls. In this year the receipts of wheat and flour up to the first of August at the Port of Oswego was equal to the whole receipts from Canada West, during the whole of last year. The Commerce therefore of Canada, while increasing as a whole, is not increasing in Lower Canada, and for this result, the ministers, especially, Lower Canadian Ministers are to blame. He (Mr. Young,) would conclude by referring to another matter to which he thought it right to direct public attention. He referred to the present Law under which the Grand Trunk Railway was incorporated. The number of Directors in that Company is eighteen. Six live in England and twelve in Canada. Six of the twelve are Executive Officers, and one of

these last, the present Speaker of the Legislative Council is President of the Company. He fancied such a Board asking its Secretary to advise the Provincial Secretary that, say £100,000 of Debentures, are wanted, and in due course, the Provincial Secretary placing the same before the Executive Council, and the same parties acting as Judge for the people, who at another Board had asked for the Debentures. The arrangement offers no security to the public and is absurd, and he believed that the time was not distant when the people of the Country who are now so determined that the Church should be separated from the State, would also be as urgent that the State should be separated from Railroad Companies, and have no official connection therewith.<sup>15</sup>

Il termine en offrant quelques considérations sur la combinaison politique de laquelle vient de sortir le nouveau Cabinet, et il déclare qu'il ne peut consentir à lui donner son appui.<sup>16</sup>

MR. SANBORN then rose and said. It was well known to the honorable Members how the last short session was brought to a close. Most of it was devoted to the consideration of the Clergy Reserve question, and the ministry received a censure for not being prepared at that time to proceed at once to legislate upon the matter. They had come back determined to proceed, supposing that they had that majority which would be necessary to enable them to carry on the Government and after the lapse of so considerable a time as had been consumed in the settlement of the measure so important to the country, and after many Executive Governments had been passed through, from whom the people had reason to expect direct legislation upon this measure, they found the Ministry coming down apparently recommending a measure which the opposition had recommended for years before, namely, an adjustment of the Clergy Reserve question. Now that adjustment he apprehended had obtained a party signification, which was understood in the Country as being distinct from "secularization." He had given an independant support to the Ministry of the two Parliaments, and had come to the conclusion to support the measures of the then existing Government at the present moment, if elected, and he must confess that upon this question, (as to which though a Lower Canadian he had felt a lively interest) that he was incensed at the step which had been taken upon it by the Ministry.<sup>17</sup> [He] had come to Parliament prepared to sustain the late Administration, and to give the late Inspector General an opportunity of clearing himself from the charges brought against him. He had, however, been driven from his support of that Administration by the ambiguity with which the Clergy Reserves question was referred to in the Address. He thought that after the unequivocal manner in which the feeling of the country had been expressed (sic), the Administration should have come out boldly in the Address with a declaration in favor of secularization.<sup>18</sup> Had the Address contained that bold declaration, he would have been disposed, as he had been desirous, to have gone with it, but had the Government existed in its former state, his conclusion was to sustain the amendments which had been proposed by the Honorable Member for one of the Ridings of York, with reference to that part of the address, or else to be satisfied with the address of the ministry, but circumstances had taken place which honorable members had had little reason to expect, and which had given to him, for one, no confidence in the ministry. Even if he had confidence in the men, at one time, he could not have any in the combination which had taken place, which must be condemned. They had been informed by the present government that the change had taken place upon the clergy reserves question, but that act had appeared before them, in a very vague form. They also said that their opponents had come over to their view of the question. This was evidently a fallacy, the proof of which was in the



language of the address. He would also like to know in what way they had changed their views upon the question of the new constitution of the legislative council. He had listened to remarks made by the honorable member for Simcoe, in reply to remarks made by an honorable member on his side of the House, but without making any exposition of his own views.<sup>19</sup>

MR. ROBINSON did not say how he should vote upon any question, but thought that when alluded to in this manner, that he should express his views, and was ready to do so.<sup>20</sup>

MR. SANBORN, continuing.--The hon. member was quite at liberty to do so, and the House had a right to expect from that hon. gentleman some enunciation of his principles, whether they have changed. He did not understand that they had, but so sudden a change in the Ministry was likely to lead to a want of confidence with the public in hon. members. That want of confidence was likewise indicated by the very members who had been taken into the present ministry, and whom it was asserted, had become converted to new reform principles. They had found the Attorney General, as was required of a dying minister, asking a delay of twenty-four hours to reflect upon certain measures. By whom was that refused? By the hon. and gallant knight, and 48 hours after that we find that he is sent for to form a new ministry, and they found him joining hand in hand with other hon. members to carry on the government, saying, "all is reconciled--we now concur and shall have a strong government."<sup>21</sup> He ... thought the country should place no confidence in men who, for the sake of office, had abandoned the principles for which they had contended for thirty years.<sup>22</sup> [He] reviewed the position of the conservatives, and expressed his belief that their tergiversation would have the effect of sickening the public and destroying all confidence in public men.<sup>23</sup> He (Mr. S.) did not wish to add anything to what had already been said, but the want of confidence with which his mind had been directed, had arisen from the very grounds set forth so ably by the last hon. member. Nevertheless, he would frankly admit that although the charges made against the late Inspector General were calculated to bring about a want of confidence of the public in the ministry, yet he would frankly admit that he was prepared to give the Inspector General every opportunity to free himself from the charges made against him. He (Mr. S.) much disliked the manner in which the existing ministerial organization had been brought about. He found the hon. member for Renfrew repudiating the idea that he was instrumental in bringing about this government. But he believed that the Inspector General's relations and confidants were of that description that his views were not unknown to His Excellency, and that he took that view which he believed to be the constitutional one of the question, namely, that it was proper for him to give his advice as to who should be sent for on that occasion. The hon. gentleman, after alluding briefly to the other points of the address, concluded by stating, that he did not think the measures of this Ministry would be satisfactory to the reform party of Upper Canada or to the country at large. It was not a mere compromise, but an abandonment of principle upon the part of the members forming that ministry.<sup>24</sup> At the same time he declared that it was his intention to vote for good measures, let them be brought forward by this or any other Administration.<sup>25</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN, in rising to explain, said--he would take an opportunity at another time, of referring at length to the subject adverted to; but he thought that he had previously expressed himself very clearly upon the measures, and with respect to the Clergy Reserves, he begged to state that he had always expressed his conviction that they ought to be secularized, and he still remained



of the same opinion. Upon the subject of the Seignorial Tenure, this was not the time to enter into the case; but he would reiterate the fact, that the views of the government remained unchanged. The bill for making the Legislative Council elective was a government measure last session, and still was so.<sup>26</sup>

MR. POWELL rose, not as the defender or apologist of the present combination, but for the purpose of defining his position, and the course he intended to pursue. In doing so, he should probably express not only his own views, but those of a great many of the new Conservative members. At the outset, he declared himself distinctly and unequivocally to be a progressive Conservative. He felt the genius of the age to be progressive, and he would never be a clog to the wheels of progress as long as he had a vote in the House. (Hear, hear.) When first he heard of the combination he expressed the opinion that, confidence being a plant of slow growth, the sudden change on the part of the Conservative leaders would not produce that confidence in the public mind which was desirable in the administration of the affairs of the country.<sup>27</sup> He advised that the Conservative party should not assume the reins of government, until the great question of the Clergy Reserves, upon which they had expressed themselves so decidedly during a long course of years, had been settled and removed from the political arena. He believed that was the only real barrier to the Conservatives taking part in the administration of affairs. He was, however, overruled by a majority of the party, and yielded his adherence to the Administration. He believed the reputation of the Conservative leaders would contrast favorably with that of the leaders of the opposite party. He gave them credit for honesty, elevation of sentiment and a firm adherence to principle, through years of discouragement and disaster. For this reason, they commanded, to a certain extent, his confidence, now that they had assumed the reins of government. The late Ministry were defeated on the question of the Speakership. What was the position of parties in the House at the time of that defeat? First, there was the Rouge party, comprising some fifteen members, and representing the Lower Canada section of the opposition. He asked if it was for a moment to be supposed that that pitiful minority should control the Government of this Province, so far as Lower Canadian interests were concerned, in opposition to a majority of some fifty members, who expressed their confidence in the Lower Canadian section of the Administration? (Hear, hear.) In the next place there were the Ministerial Reformers. Then there were the "malcontents," led by the hon. member for Lambton, or the hon. member for Glengary, or the hon. member for Haldimand. Indeed, there were so many leaders that there were very few followers. (A laugh.) Then there was the Conservative party--the legitimate opposition--led by the gallant knight of Dundurn. The latter was certainly the most powerful section of the opposition. Now, if there was no principle of cohesion in the present combination, certainly there was none in that opposition. (Hear, hear.) Upon the very first question that arose--the Speakership--was not the hon. member for Glengary deserted by his friends the Rouges of Lower Canada? (Hear.) Certainly the strongest opposition on that occasion came from the party led by Sir Allan McNab. He therefore thought that His Excellency had pursued a judicious and constitutional course in sending for that gentleman to afford him an opportunity of forming an administration. (Hear.) This course had been condemned by 39 gentlemen who had signed a "round robbin" and sent it to Upper Canada to influence the elections. This manifest and the names attached to it reminded him of the 39 articles of the faith he professed, because each of those gentlemen had a particular doctrine of his own and unless all the others would

subscribe to it there could be no unity or harmony amongst them. (Hear and laughter.) Had there been a few more offices to distribute he felt confident that there would have been less opposition to contend against. (Hear hear.) No man in the country had been more zealous in advocating the interests of the Conservative Section of the administration of the late election than the honorable member for Lambton.<sup>28</sup>

Loud cries of hear, hear, from the ministerial benches.<sup>29</sup>

MR. POWELL [continued:] His talented organ, the Globe, came out in favor of the Conservative Candidates, wherever there were ministerialists in the field. If this combination had not been brought about, what combination could have been proposed? Would a combination of the Conservative party of Upper Canada with the Rouges, and "mal-contents" and "clear grits" have been sustained by the country? No, he felt that it would not, although he believed there had been a disposition on the part of the mal-contents to unite with the Conservative party.<sup>30</sup>

Hear, hear, from the ministerial side.<sup>31</sup>

MR. POWELL [continued:] This alliance was a natural one and it was to be regretted that it had not been made years ago. It was natural because of the identity of opinion between the two parties on the subject of separate (sic) schools. The Lower Canada reformers held that men had a right to educate their children in the religion of their fathers and to receive their fair proportion of the public money for that purpose. (Hear, hear.) He, as a progressive conservative, endorsed that doctrine. (Hear, hear.) There was also an identity of opinion on the subject of religious incorporations and in this aspect also the alliance was a natural one. He (Mr. P.) was certainly surprised when he saw the honorable member for Norfolk (Dr. Rolph) raise his hands with pious horror at the idea of the unnatural alliance that had taken place between conservatives and reformers: for that gentleman had been living for the last three years in a state of political concubinage. (Laughter.) To see that gentleman therefore affect virtuous indignation reminded him of the mawkish sentimentality of a lady of easy virtue who having spent the greater part of her career in the depravity of a city life and having lost her charms so as to be no longer sought by her paramours, turned round with virtuous indignation and rolling up the whites of her eyes, rebuked these younger females who still possessing allurements, persisted in the same course. (Laughter.) The hon. member for Norfolk returned to public life as the embodiment of reform and progress, pledged to secularization and the abolition of sectarian schools and religious incorporations, and yet for three years he acted with a ministry who passed such acts of incorporation, adopted the principle of sectarian schools and did nothing at all with the Clergy Reserves. (Hear hear.) He stated this on the authority of the hon. members for Lambton and Haldimand with whom the gentleman now acted. (Hear hear.)<sup>32</sup> Upon the question of religious incorporations, men had doubtlessly a perfect right to be incorporated together for religious purposes as well as for commerce--unlimited power should be given to religious societies.<sup>33</sup> So far as he (Mr. P.) was concerned, no principle of his had been changed or would be yielded. If the Clergy Reserves were to be secularized; if the Church was to be robbed, his, at least, should not be the impious hand to desecrate her altars. (Hear, hear.) He could not support the present combination upon that question. (Hear, hear.) With respect to other questions mentioned in the address such as the Elective Legislative Council and the reduction of the tariff, he enter-



tained opinions in common with many gentlemen of the opposite side as well as with the gentlemen on the treasury benches. One of the purposes for which he was elected was to oppose the corruptions of the late administration, such as the interference in individual speculations by men who held public offices, and he would support no administration that would not go for a full investigation into those charges. It was due to the country and due to the individuals against whom the accusations were made. He repeated that in supporting the combination he was guilty of no abandonment of principle. He should vote for the address because there was no expression in it that would compromise him in the least. The selection of the term "adjustment" in reference to the Clergy Reserves was such a happy one that he believed all parties might conscientiously vote for it. (Ironical cries of hear, hear.) No person was more desirous than he was for an "adjustment" on the Clergy Reserves although perhaps he might wish to see them adjusted in a different manner from what gentlemen opposite desired.<sup>34</sup>

MR. MCKERLIE could not conscientiously support a combination between men who had been opposed to one another throughout their whole political lives and who now coalesced, the one party to obtain office and the other to retain office. He denied that the independent reformers of Upper Canada, had showed any disposition to amalgamate with the Upper Canada Conservatives although overtures had certainly been made to them by that party. He expressed his surprise that the honorable member for Toronto (Mr. Cameron) should have promised a general support to the administration and could only account for it by the rumours which were afloat that the Chief-Justiceship of the Court of Commons Pleas was soon to become vacant. (Hear, hear.) Even if that gentleman should oppose the administration on the Clergy Reserves and Legislative Council questions, he (Mr. McK.) believed, his opposition would amount to something very like a support. Mr. McK. after further remarks referred to the Rouge party of Lower Canada<sup>35</sup>. On lui avait fait entendre que le parti rouge avait des vues et des opinions destructives de tout ordre de choses raison[n]able: mais, depuis qu'il le connaît,<sup>36</sup> and declared that he was not ashamed to avow that upon many questions his opinion co-incided with theirs, although in some respects he was prepared to go even further than they were.<sup>37</sup>

MR. DALY, croit devoir définir sa position. Après les élections du Haut-Canada il avait cru trouver en Chambre 42 ou 43 membres qui seraient en faveur de la sécularisation, mais ici il voyait que tous les membres du Haut-Canada voulaient séculariser, moins deux.<sup>38</sup> [He] announced himself an opponent of the present government because although they might consent to secularize the Clergy Reserves, they could not be expected to bring forward those other great measures of progressive reform, which the country demanded.<sup>39</sup>

MR. J. DORION of Drummond, delivered an animated speech in French<sup>40</sup>. [Il] s'exprime à peu près dans les termes suivants:

De grands changements ont eu lieu depuis l'ouverture de la session. Nous avons trouvé un ministère que l'opinion publique avait condamné. La Chambre l'a condamné. Il lui a fallu céder le terrain et l'hon. représentant de la ville d'Hamilton, le chef du parti conservateur dans le Haut-Canada, a été appelé pour former un nouveau ministère.

Quand j'examine la combinaison des conservateurs du Haut-Canada et des conservateurs du Bas-Canada, je me demande si nous devons avoir plus de confiance dans le ministère actuel que dans le ministère défunt. Je vois que le chef de l'administration et ceux qui joueront le plus grand rôle dans le gouvernement sont des hommes qui ont toujours été reconnus comme les plus arriérés, ceux



qui ont toujours été opposés à l'extension des libertés publiques en Canada. Quelle garantie nous offre la présente combinaison? Les principaux ministres du Haut-Canada sont ceux qui en 1839 proposaient dans l'Assemblée Législative du Haut-Canada de s'unir au Bas-Canada, à la condition que la langue française serait abolie dans le parlement, que le Haut-Canada avec 407,000 âmes aurait 64 représentants, et que le Bas-Canada avec 600,000 âmes en aurait 50 seulement. Ce sont ceux qui, par leur mauvaise administration des affaires publiques en 1846 et 1847, avaient soulevé la colère du peuple contre eux au point de ne pouvoir continuer leur maladministration.

Jetez donc un coup d'oeil sur l'union qui eut lieu entre les conservateurs de 1843 et les honorables D.B. Viger et D.B. Papineau. L'opinion publique n'a-t-elle pas condamné ces derniers, et y eut-il quelqu'un de plus acharné que les honorables ministres du Bas-Canada dans leurs dénonciations de ces hommes?

Jetez donc un coup d'oeil sur '47, lorsque le présent Inspecteur-général (M. Cayley) était Inspecteur-général d'alors. Quels cris d'indignation ne s'élevèrent point alors contre son incapacité à administrer les affaires financières du pays? Combien les honorables membres Bas-Canadiens de l'administration nouvelle étaient violents dans leurs attaques contre leurs collègues, leurs amis, leurs associés d'aujourd'hui? Combien ils proclamaient que le pays était sur le point de faire banqueroute, tant ces hommes étaient incapables! Mais aujourd'hui qu'ils sont réunis ensemble, il n'y a rien de mieux, personne de plus capable d'administrer les affaires financières du pays que l'hon. M. Cayley de '54, l'incapable Inspecteur-général de '47!

M. l'Orateur, je ne suis point surpris de la combinaison actuelle. Je suis un de ceux qui l'ont vu venir depuis un certain nombre d'années; qui l'ont prédit depuis cinq ou six ans comme devant être le résultat inévitable des recules de nos prétendus libéraux du Bas-Canada. Ces derniers étaient aussi conservateurs, dans la pratique, que l'étaient les premiers. Et vers qui s'est dirigé l'hon. représentant de la ville d'Hamilton pour trouver de l'appui dans le Bas-Canada. Il s'est adressé aux conservateurs; à ceux qui ne voulaient point des réformes promises au peuple; à ceux qui n'accordaient des réformes que lorsqu'il leur était impossible de les retenir plus longtemps, qui préféraient conserver leurs portefeuilles que de courir le risque de les perdre en se présentant avec des mesures à principes larges et libéraux.

Qui n'a pas vu venir cette union de nos libéraux d'autrefois et des tories de tout temps? Qui ne se rappelle que les hommes considérés comme les chefs des désordres de '49, sont ceux qui viennent de donner le baiser de paix à nos ministres Bas-Canadiens? Qui ne se rappelle le langage des hon. ministres du Haut-Canada, dans ces temps d'agitation et de destruction des propriétés publiques? Qui ne se rappelle qu'alors il n'y avait qu'un seul homme qui put rappeler les émeutiers à l'ordre et les engager à se retirer paisiblement dans leurs logis? Le col. Guty, le candidat par excellence de l'hon. Procureur-général du Bas-Canada, aux dernières élections, était le seul homme qui put maintenir l'ordre, le seul qui put tendre une main aux ministres d'alors et l'autre aux émeutiers dans la rue, lorsque ces mêmes ministres n'étaient point capables de faire arrêter un seul des individus qui troublaient la paix, dévastaient les propriétés publiques et privées dans Montréal.

Quelle garantie a le Bas-Canada dans la présente administration? Sur six membres du cabinet, cinq sont des avocats et le six[i]ème médecin. Et bien! je le demande: dans un tems où l'on ne parle, d'un bout du pays à l'autre, que de spéculations ministérielles sur les fonds publics, sur les propriétés publiques, de dilapidation des derniers (sic) publics, quel est celui des ministres du Bas-Canada qui, par ses habitudes ou sa profession, soit propre

à examiner l'administration financière du pays? Pas un seul qui soit apte à un semblable travail. Pour ma part, M. l'orateur, j'aurais aimé voir dans le ministère quelqu'un qui eut pu inspirer plus de confiance sous ce rapport; un marchand habitué aux transactions financières, capable de surveiller cette branche des affaires publiques, aurait peut-être pu éloigner les justes soupçons que l'on entretient dans le pays sur l'agiotage des deniers publics; soupçons bien légitimes puisque les faits sont venus établir d'une manière incontestable qu'il y avait des spéculations de ce genre.

L'honorable ex-inspecteur (M. Hincks) est venu lui-même le déclarer durant la dernière session et poser en principe qu'un ministre pouvait profiter de sa position officielle pour spéculer sur les fonds publics tout aussi bien qu'aucun autre individu pouvait le faire. C'est ce principe-là que le pays a condamné aux dernières élections. C'est ce principe-là que la Chambre a condamné dès son ouverture, en fesant voir à une grande majorité le peu de confiance qu'elle reposait dans la défunte administration. La défiance publique n'a pas disparu avec le dernier ministère, et pour ma part, je crois que la Chambre ne devrait pas se séparer avant que d'avoir une enquête sur les actes de la défunte administration. L'on découvrirait peut-être encore plusieurs autres spéculations dignes de la réprobation populaire.

Plus j'envisage la combinaison actuelle, plus elle me rappelle la fable des Loups et des brebis.

J'en ai la conviction, les hommes faibles et incapables du Bas-Canada ne pourront jamais lutter dans l'administration avec l'activité et l'énergie indomptables d'un McNab, d'un Smith ou d'un McDonald; les tories du Haut-Canada auront toujours le dessus dans la distribution du patronage et ils s'en serviront de manière à pouvoir influencer les prochaines élections générales. La première rumeur qui nous vient est celle que l'un des principaux membres de cette Chambre, qui a toujours appartenu au parti le plus conservateur, va être nommé juge dans le H.-C. Aurait-on pensé à la nomination de ce membre avant la présente combinaison? J'en suis convai[n]cu, les événements viendront prouver à l'évidence que les loups politiques du H.-C. s'empareront de la plus large part, et dans les idées et dans l'administration des affaires, en dépit des brebis du B.-C. et des bergers qui veillent aux soins du troupeau.

Je le dis ici franchement, je n'ai pas plus de confiance dans la combinaison actuelle que je n'en avais dans le ministère défunt. Je crois que s'il était fait un appel au peuple, elle serait universellement condamnée. M. l'orateur, je laisse là le ministère pour passer à la politique que nous devrions inaugurer.

Notre présent parlement a été baptisé sous le nom de parlement réformé. De grandes mesures devront attirer notre attention, et j'espère qu'une nouvelle ère va s'ouvrir dans notre législation; que nous examinerons la condition actuelle du pays et qu'on ne verra plus de législation au jour le jour.

Me plaçant, pour un, sur le terrain le plus large des réformes sociales et politiques, je vais examiner quelques unes des questions qui devraient nous occuper. Je place en premier lieu la question d'éducation. Je n'hésite pas à dire que nous devons faire quelque chose sur ce sujet.

Je vois déjà qu'un grand nombre de requêtes ont été présentées sur cette question. Sans attirer l'attention de cette Chambre sur tout ce qui devrait être fait, je me bornerai à dire que l'on devrait voter une somme annuelle beaucoup plus considérable que celle qui est actuellement accordée pour l'éducation. Je serais prêt à doubler, tripler, quadrupler cette somme, s'il le fallait, pour faire avancer l'éducation dans le pays, convaincu que je suis



que l'éducation est indispensable au progrès matériel, intellectuel et moral d'un peuple.

Si je passe au sujet de l'agriculture, puis-je convenir que la manière actuelle d'encourager cet art soit bien profitable au pays? Quant au Bas-Canada, je suis convaincu que le mode actuel des sociétés d'agriculture n'atteint pas le but que l'on s'est proposé. Qui profite de ces expositions qui ont lieu? Quelques hommes riches qui ont les moyens de se procurer les articles qui devront remporter les prix. La masse n'en profite point. Ce sont presque toujours les mêmes individus. Mon opinion est bien arrêtée. Il n'y a que par l'exemple que vous pourrez convaincre les cultivateurs de nos campagnes des vices qui peuvent exister dans notre système d'agriculture et leur faire comprendre qu'en adoptant un mode nouveau, il en résulterait de grands avantages pour le pays. Il nous faut des fermes-modèles.

Le système municipal actuel fonctionne mal, et rien ne donnera une véritable stabilité à cette institution, si ce n'est la décentralisation, le rétablissement des municipalités de paroisses qui sont depuis longtemps réclamées par le pays.

Rien n'est plus propre au progrès d'un pays que la décentralisation des affaires, et le pays saluerait avec bonheur la décentralisation de la judicature. L'administration de la justice est dispendieuse sous le présent système. Le peuple paie cher pour plaider.

Une question qui depuis longtemps attire l'attention du peuple est celle de l'indemnité des jurés. Chaque fois que je suis entré dans une cour de justice, j'ai été surpris d'un fait qui a dû vous frapper tout aussi bien que moi. Le juge, le greffier, l'avocat, le traducteur, le copiste, l'interprète, l'huiss[i]er, le gardien, le balayeur de la place même sont tous indemnisés pour leur travail. Le juré seul ne l'est point, lui qui a bien souvent un pénible voyage à faire et de grandes dépenses à encourir.

La Tenure Seigneuriale a déjà été si longuement discutée que je n'en dirai que quelques mots. Un pays dont le sol, comme dans les seigneuries du Bas-Canada, n'est point libre, ne peut point voir prospérer son industrie. Là où l'air qui circule dans les champs n'est point libre (car vous ne pouvez l'arrêter pour faire mouvoir un moulin sans en avoir acheté la permission du seigneur), là où l'eau qui coule dans les rivières n'est point libre, il ne saurait y avoir de grande prospérité. Toujours l'agriculture et l'industrie seront entravées dans leur marche.

Ce n'est pas seulement une réforme qu'il nous faut sur cette question; ce n'est pas seulement un replâtrage, mais l'abolition entière de ce système; sans cela, nous serons toujours obligés de recommencer. Il faut en finir une bonne fois. Que la tenure soit abolie aussitôt [que] possible et d'un seul trait. Qu'une indemnité soit payée au seigneur pour la valeur de sa seigneurie, et que l'on vienne en aide aux censitaires pour le paiement de ce rachat, de cette émancipation de notre population rurale.

Quant aux réserves des terres pour le clergé, j'en désire ardemment la sécularisation et je crois que c'est le seul mode à adopter pour régler cette question.

Après avoir brièvement fait allusion à plusieurs questions qui occupent l'opinion publique, il me sera permis de dire un mot de notre présent système de gouvernement. Nous avons eu de grands changements dans notre constitution. L'acte d'Union, par lequel nous sommes encore régis, nous accorde ce que l'on appelle le gouvernement responsable. Je suis encore à me demander en quoi consiste cette responsabilité tant vantée. Je considère cette constitution comme très vicieuse sous plusieurs rapports, et je crois que le tems est venu pour nous de demander plusieurs changements importants.<sup>41</sup> Those who had doubted



whether responsibility to the people was created by that act had now good reason for their doubts. In Mr. Lafontaine's ministry there had been only two out of the Lower Canadian section of the ministry who had places in the House of Assembly under the control of the people; the others were in the Legislative Council removed from that control. So in the present ministry one of the two ministers chosen especially to give confidence to the people in the government was neither in the popular branch nor had ever been there, and it was evident that even in this so-called reformed parliament the country might still be governed by a small majority.<sup>42</sup>

La constitution est défectueuse parce qu'elle accorde à vingt membres de la Chambre, qui se compose de 130 membres, le droit de faire des lois pour le pays, l'exposant ainsi à être gouverné par la minorité.

Elle est défectueuse par l'immense patronage qu'elle met aux mains du ministère. On sait que le pouvoir a à sa disposition la nomination de tous les magistrats, depuis le golfe St. Laurent jusqu'au lac Supérieur. La nomination de tous les officiers de milice; les juges; les greffiers; les régistrateurs qui sont les officiers-rapporteurs; 700 à 800 officiers de douanes; tous les maîtres de postes; tous les employés des travaux publics et encore bien d'autres. Tant que le pouvoir aura cet immense patronage entre les mains, il sera difficile de trouver l'expression de l'opinion publique dans cette enceinte. On sait que ce patronage est aussi nuisible au ministère même qu'à la bonne administration des affaires publiques. La moitié du temps des ministres est employée (*sic*) au choix de ces officiers locaux afin d'influencer s'il est possible, les élections générales ou partielles des représentants. L'expérience du passé est là pour le prouver; ministère tory ou libéral, tous en ont abusé.

On devrait retrancher cet immense patronage. On devrait donner au peuple le choix de ses propres magistrats; de ses régistrateurs; de ses officiers-rapporteurs; de ses commissaires des petites causes, et de plusieurs autres officiers locaux sans qu'il en résultât aucun inconvénient. Cela débarrassera l'administration des affaires publiques d'un immense embarras et de dépenses inutiles et extravagantes.

Je ne suis point de ceux qui croient que le peuple peut choisir de bons représentants et qu'il soit incapable de se choisir de bons magistrats. Partout où le peuple a eu à choisir, il s'est moins trompé que lorsque le choix était entre les mains de quelques individus qui abusent souvent de leur pouvoir pour leur propre agrandissement personnel.

M. l'Orateur, on se plaint avec justice des grandes dépenses de notre gouvernement, et je crois que tant que nous serons sous le présent régime, tant que nous ne débarrasserons pas le mécanisme de notre gouvernement de tout l'embarras du patronage, il sera difficile de faire des réductions qui puissent être sensibles. Avec le rouage actuel, les dépenses augmentent annuellement. En 1841 nous avons dépensé £300,000, et d'année en année la somme des dépenses s'est augmentée. L'année dernière nous avons payé £900,000 d'impôts, et la somme des épargnes n'est pas très considérable.

On a fait beaucoup de bruit au sujet de la prospérité actuelle du pays.<sup>43</sup> It was, indeed, said that under this system the country flourished, and the member for Argenteuil had recently boasted of its prosperity; but he did not conceive the prosperity, perhaps momentary, of a particular class could be considered as the prosperity of the whole. The prosperity of the revenue was easily accounted for--the population had increased<sup>44</sup>. On s'est donné de garde de faire ressortir par quel moyen on avait donné des couleurs magnifiques à cette apparente prospérité. On n'a pas dit qu'avant l'Union, les impôts sur

les marchandises n'étaient que de DEUX ET DEMIE pour cent sur leur valeur. On n'a pas dit qu'immédiatement après l'Union, pour rencontrer les dépenses croissantes, il a fallu doubler cet impôt et le porter à CINQ pour cent, et qu'en 1847 on le porta à SEPT ET DEMIE. C'était le temps de la gêne, le temps de la mauvaise administration tory McNab qui nous menait à la banqueroute, suivant l'opinion d'alors de l'honorable Commissaire des Terres.

Quand l'administration Lafontaine est montée au pouvoir, il lui a fallu porter à DOUZE et DEMIE pour cent l'impôt sur les marchandises. Nous avons depuis payé CINQ fois autant d'impôt sur les marchandises que nous en payions avant l'Union, et il n'est pas étonnant qu'avec des moyens semblables, avec une dette publique qui s'est augmentée d'année en année, on ait pu faire sonner la grande prospérité du crédit provincial.

La dette lors de l'Union était comme suit:

Dette du H.-C.,	10 fév. 1841	£1,228,169
Dette du B.-C.	do do	123,675

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Dette du Canada après l'Union £1,351,844

La dette actuelle approche maintenant £6,000,000. L'année dernière nous avons payé £222,000 pour l'intérêt de cette dette. Nous avons payé près de deux fois autant, pour l'intérêt de la dette, dans une année, que ce qu'il aurait fallu pour payer le capital de la dette du Bas-Canada en 1841.

Il n'est pas surprenant qu'avec des faits comme ceux-là l'opinion publique s'alarme sur les affaires financières du pays, quand on considère la petite somme de bien que le pays, et le Bas-Canada a retiré de la circulation de ces énormes sommes.

Je n'ai pas été qu'un peu surpris, l'autre jour, d'entendre le représentant du comté d'Argenteuil nous parler de la prospérité du pays en des termes ronflants et prendre comme mesure de cette prospérité la condition actuelle de quelques centaines d'ouvriers travaillant sur les canaux et chemins de fer. Ces ouvriers, nous a-t-il dit, peuvent s'acheter de meilleurs habits qu'ils ne le pouvaient il y a cinq ans; peuvent prendre de meilleurs dîners qu'ils ne le pouvaient il y a quatre ans!

Je ne suis pas de ceux qui mesurent la prospérité d'un pays par la prospérité passagère, dans bien des cas, de quelques centaines d'artisans, d'une faible partie d'une population flottante qui marche toujours et ne s'arrête que là où il y a du travail. Je crois que si l'on voulait juger de la prospérité du pays par la prospérité de ses habitants, on devait prendre une base un peu plus large. On devait prendre la classe agricole, dans un pays agricole comme le nôtre, comme la mesure la plus juste de la prospérité du peuple. On aurait pu se demander si les habitants portaient de meilleurs habits aujourd'hui qu'ils n'en portaient il y a vingt ans? On aurait pu demander pourquoi, malgré notre grande prospérité, les habitants des Etats-Unis peuvent payer \$25 et \$30 par mois, tandis que les cultivateurs canadiens peuvent à peine payer \$10 ou \$12 par mois. En un mot, on aurait pu se demander si la condition générale des habitants était bien meilleure qu'elle ne l'a été? Ces questions auraient pu être faites avec plus de justice et plus d'apropos que celles qui ont été faites.<sup>45</sup> For his own part he believed government could best add to the prosperity of the country by diminishing the cost of governing, and then proportionately reducing the tariff. This, however, would be difficult under the present system of purchasing support by patronage. If that were diminished by making over to the people the choice of local officers--in that case the returning officers would not do the injustice which they had so frequently done at the late election,--never, however, for the advantage of the opposition candidates.<sup>46</sup>

M. l'orateur, si je prends maintenant la réponse au discours du gouvernement, je dois dire qu'elle ne signifie pas grand'chose. La réponse est rédigée de manière à ne compromettre personne. Je vois ceux même qui s'opposent à la sécularisation des réserves être les premiers à se déclarer satisfaits quoiqu'on nous promette que les réservees (sic) seront abolies. Je voterai pour les amendements qui seront proposés. Je veux que (sic) notre réponse au discours soit sans équivoque. Si nous voulons la sécularisation, is (sic) faut le dire. Si nous voulons l'abolition de la Tenure Seigneuriale, nous devons aussi le dire.

J'ai été surpris de ce que nulle mention n'ait été faite dans le discours du retrait des troupes de cette province. Il doit, cependant, exister une correspondance entre le gouvernement impérial et le gouvernement colonial à ce sujet. Dans quelques jours tous les soldats seront partis. Il en restera si peu que cela équivaut à une évacuation complète. Le gouvernement a dû s'occuper de ce sujet. Il a dû voir s'il proposerait un projet quelconque au sujet de milice ou d'armée régulière, et si l'on se proposait de nous faire payer les dépenses qu'encourerait telle proposition.

J'ai été surpris de ce que rien n'a été dit au sujet de l'Union des Provinces anglaises. D'après ce qui a transpiré publiquement, il paraît que nous n'en sommes pas trop éloignés. La Chambre actuelle devra s'en occuper plus vite qu'elle ne s'y attend même. A-t-on l'intention de nous soumettre un projet et de le faire voter sans que le peuple du pays ait l'occasion de pouvoir se prononcer sur un sujet aussi important? L'Union du Haut-Canada et du Bas-Canada a été imposée au pays sans son consentement, et il pourrait bien arriver que l'Union des Provinces fut encore imposée au Bas-Canada sans qu'il ait eu à se prononcer sur une proposition qui l'intéresse si directement.

Je considérerai comme un malheur pour nous, non seulement pour le Bas-Canada, mais pour le Canada entier, une union de cette nature. Je ne discuterai pas cette question bien au long. Qu'il me soit permis de demander aux représentants du Bas-Canada où sera la faible voix du Bas-Canada une fois que l'on nous aura attaché[s] par les pieds avec les provinces d'en bas, après nous avoir attaché[s] par la tête avec le Haut-Canada? Où sera notre voix au milieu des cinq provinces britanniques?

Nous devrions nous préparer à recevoir cette proposition. Nous devons nous attendre à ce qu'elle nous sera soumise. Quant (sic) elle le sera, il s'élèvera une autre question.<sup>47</sup> He wished to know what was doing in this matter, because if it were to be brought forward, he would be the first to demand from England that which he thought would be much better<sup>48</sup>. Il sera tems je crois de se demander si nous ne devrions pas nous lever dans cette enceinte, pour demander, par une requête à la mère-patrie, de nous donner congé, de nous abandonner à nous-mêmes, de nous accorder notre INDEPENDANCE!<sup>49</sup>--a complete independence, with the power, of course, to make any subsequent arrangement she might approve. He knew that many persons in Canada had been called traitors for thinking as he now spoke; but similar views had been repeatedly expressed in the British Parliament, and [they] had boldly declared that the sooner the connection between England and the colony was dissolved the better it would be.<sup>50</sup>

M. l'Orateur, je considère l'état colonial comme un état transitoire, qui ne peut durer longtemps, et qu'il arrive un tems où une colonie atteint un certain degré d'importance qui lui indique tout naturellement qu'elle doit demander son émancipation et conquérir son indépendance pour se gouverner elle-même, sans être à la peine de soumettre tout projet de loi à une autorité dont le siège est éloigné de la colonie.

Je suis heureux de voir que nous sommes arrivés à un tems où l'on peut ex-



primer librement cette opinion sans être taxé[s] d'être rebelles, révolutionnaires, ou être accusés de haute trahison. Depuis plusieurs années la question a déjà été soulevée dans la presse anglaise de Londres et même dans la Chambre des Communes en Angleterre. Dès 1846, des hommes d'Etat éminents déclaraient que le Canada deviendrait bientôt indépendant; que le cours naturel des choses nous entraînait irrésistiblement vers notre indépendance. Depuis cette époque, les mêmes vues ont été exprimées plus généralement et plus fréquemment. Et il faudrait être aveugle pour ne pas prévoir un semblable résultat.

Il est bien vrai que dans ce pays il s'est trouvé des hommes plus loyaux que la Reine elle-même, mais je me le demande: si en Angleterre on peut s'occuper d'une semblable question, pourquoi ne nous en occuperions-nous pas nous-mêmes, lorsque nous sommes certainement plus intéressés qu'on ne peut l'être en Angleterre?

Le Canada a un territoire immense et sa population est déjà de 2,000,000 d'âmes. Nous sommes assez forts, la population est assez nombreuse, les ressources assez considérables pour approcher du moment où il devra prendre et occuper la position que la providence lui a destinée.

Voilà, M. l'orateur, mes principales vues sur les différents sujets qui devront nous occuper.

Je ne m'arrêterai pas à toutes les attaques qui nous sont venues de la part de quelques uns des membres qui siègent de l'autre côté de cette Chambre. Je ne m'arrêterai pas au discours burlesque du représentant de Dorchester. Il a bien voulu nous mener à '93, nous parler de révolution, de bouleversement, de nivelage, de bonnet phrygien, de sans-culottes et d'une foule d'autres expressions plus ou moins ridicules et absurdes.

Je dirai seulement qu'il n'y a pas de sans-culottes de notre côté de la Chambre. Je dirai que s'il en est qui méritent ce titre, ce sont ceux qui, croyant qu'une grande injustice était faite au comté de Bagot, dans l'affaire Brodeur, n'ont pas eu le courage de voter jusqu'au bout pour empêcher cette injustice de s'accomplir. Ce sont ceux-là qui par leur faiblesse mériteraient de porter le titre de sans-culottes, car ils n'ont pas grand droit au pantalon!<sup>51</sup>

As soon as he [Mr. J. Dorion] had concluded MR. FELTON rose amidst much laughter and presented a petition against the election of that gentleman.<sup>52</sup>

MR. CAMERON then rose and said that surprise had been expressed in the course of the debate, that no voice had been raised and not one word said in this House in behalf of those principles for which the opponents of secularization had always contended. It was not because there were no voters left, or that no words remained to be spoken<sup>53</sup>--no high principle to be invoked on that side<sup>54</sup> but it was rather that House who thought as he (Mr. C.) and on that question had been rendered mute by the announcement that those principles, so long contended for, had been given up, and that the struggle of a lifetime was nearly over.<sup>55</sup> It had been announced and proclaimed through the country that this great principle was at last destroyed--was at last abandoned in despair--by those who had stood by it through a long life.<sup>56</sup> Magna est veritas et prevalebit, was an old maxim, but he was almost inclined to doubt its application in politics when he saw right thus overcome by power.<sup>57</sup> It seemed to fall in politics, where without power right was too often nothing, and where too often might without right was everything.<sup>58</sup> Still he believed that truth was immutable.<sup>59</sup> Men believed there were stars in the sky, even when they were obscured by clouds or<sup>60</sup> the power of the sun obscured their splendor, and the gazers upon earth were not able to behold them, and it was so too, with

truth<sup>61</sup>. It was always there, though the roar of the multitude might prevent its expression from being heard, or the power of numbers prevent its force from being felt.<sup>62</sup> (Cheers.)<sup>63</sup> It was not because the truth of these great questions was now obscured that they would be allowed to pass without opposition. He disclaimed, indeed, any desire to oppose the government; but there were questions on which he felt as he always had felt<sup>64</sup>. Upon this question of the Reserves he felt as strongly to-day as he had always felt, and in reference to it, he would offer the Government every opposition<sup>65</sup> in his power<sup>66</sup>. (Hear, hear.) So too, with reference to the question of the Legislative Council as to the Seigniorial Tenure, his position was not the same, because he agreed with many gentlemen from lower Canada that the rights between the Seign[i]ors and the Censitaires ought to be placed on a different footing, although he might not, perhaps, be in favour of the particular measure which the Government would introduce. He desired to have it distinctly understood that in reference to the measures to which he had referred, there had been no change in his political sentiments, no alteration in his political views. He was a member of the Church of England from honest conviction. He revered her creed, he loved her teachings, he acknowledged the doctrine she sent forth to the world that the State ought to contribute to the maintainance of religion.<sup>67</sup> He believed with her that the state was bound to maintain religious instructions by the divine command conveyed by apostolic injunction. It was from a belief in her rights that it was resolved to do in the colony that which had been done in the mother country, and he trusted the house would indulge him in making a short reference to the history of this grant. In England it was well known that the established religion was part of the constitution, and in this colony in 1791, its rights were acknowledged by setting apart these Reserves. They had ever since stood on a totally different footing from endowments in England claimed by one party and repudiated by the other, and provided for from a fund raised by taxation. They were a property--an appanage (sic) of the Church to be used for the benefit of the people. When the British Parliament gave these rights for a Protestant Clergy they conferred them with the strongest guarantee to those who should make this country their home, that the same support of religion, which was afforded in the old country, should be enjoyed in the new, and this made the position of the grant different from and stronger than that of any which had been attacked in other countries. Though the words of the grant imported that it was for a Protestant Clergy, he believed it was intended solely for the Church of England; for no other Church was then known by that name. In 1829, however, the law officers of the crown declared that the term included both the English and Scotch clergy, and in 1839, both crown lawyers and judges thought they must belong to every denomination of christians who could call themselves Protestants.<sup>68</sup> He referred to the act passed in 1840, carrying out the Legislative Settlement of 1828, which was supposed at that time to be a permanent settlement of the question, and one that would put an end to these struggles and strifes in which demagogues could make use of religious feelings and prejudices by elicit shouts at the hustings or applause in Parliament.<sup>69</sup> It was a proof how little we could know of the future, that<sup>70</sup> soon after that, the very same men who were the first to pronounce it a final settlement renewed the battle cry for party purposes. It might be that now, when the Reserves were about to be secularized by the Conservative gentlemen who had gone over to the other side, regret would be felt by Liberal members that they were at last to be for ever deprived of that battle cry, by the final settlement of the question.<sup>71</sup> There would still be as he believed, unfortunately, no final settlement.<sup>72</sup> He could not helping (sic) thinking that it would have been better for the country, had this

question been treated with regard to the different large religious bodies<sup>73</sup> who might be supposed to have a title to them [the Reserves]<sup>74</sup> in a different spirit. It might be that some denominations maintaining, like the English dissenters, the voluntary principle would be willing to give up their proportion of the Reserves, or to apply it to some other purposes, but that was no reason why those who were desirous of having their proportion continued to be applied for the maintainance of religion, should not be allowed to do so<sup>75</sup> because Liberals or conservatives now assuming to be liberal in opinion, undertook to say that there ought to be no funds set apart for the support of religion.<sup>76</sup> Gentlemen on all sides admitted that there were rights in these Reserves else why should the secularization be postponed until years had passed by, and the present incumbents had passed away<sup>77</sup>, but how could this be, if the state had no power to create the funds. Could there be rights growing out of wrongs?<sup>78</sup> Could rights exist where there were no rights?<sup>79</sup> If there were no rights, how was it that there was to be no secularization of that which belonged to present incumbents? Rights could not exist in parts. It always seemed strange to him how Catholic gentlemen from Lower Canada had been induced to join in the destruction of these Reserves.--They claimed the support of the state for their church and for the religious education of their children and they did that as warmly, vehemently, even violently, as any who like him lifted up their voices for the Clergy Reserves. Did not those gentlemen see that<sup>80</sup> the very same reasons which applied to the maintainance of their Church, applied equally to the maintainance of the rights of other Churches in these Reserves. He would battle manfully and to the last moment against the secularization of the Reserves, but when the question was once settled, he, for one, wished it to be finally settled and he would never re-open it. He warned the Government however, of the difficulty they would have to encounter, in the settlement of this question. It was he believed the rock on which they would split.<sup>81</sup> And now that this question was shortly to be brought up in the House, he desired to know if it were to come in the shape already laid before the Country. If so it was not a measure of finality. If it were once passed he would not seek to disturb.... But it would not be a measure of finality, and he believed would not obtain the assent of a majority of the House.<sup>82</sup> If the Bill of the late government was not to be adopted, how were the Reserves to be disposed of? For educational purposes? Why, the Roman Catholics of Upper Canada--140,000 of the people of that section of the Province--had already put forth in anticipation of the secularization of the Reserves a claim that a portion of these Reserves should be devoted to the separate education of their youth.<sup>83</sup> Was it not known that there was in Quebec a gentleman representing two Catholic Bishops, who were taking care, if the Reserves were applied to education, to secure their share of it for religious education. Had not the Catholic Institute of Toronto passed a series of resolutions proclaiming the same design? Would<sup>84</sup> the Upper Canada<sup>85</sup> liberals agree to that--to take this property away from one Church and give it to another? Were they not shocked at the idea of hearing again the roar of an agitation on this subject, to which the past had been nothing--of a destructive whirlwind to which the past had been but a summer breeze? It would be better to leave the Reserves as they were than to excite a struggle against which men must strive during a life time. In all countries these endowments had been maintained. In England the grants to Protestant dissenters and to the French Protestants--in Ireland the regium donum and Maynooth--in the United States, the endowment of Trinity Church.<sup>86</sup> Mr. Cameron, then warned Lower Canadian members that the first attack on the Roman Catholic Church--an attack already foreshadowed in the programme of the Rouge party--would be on



the subject of tithes--that was the outwork which the opponents of State religious endowments would first assail, in order to get at the interior of the fortress. What he (Mr. C.) contended for to-day, the Lower Canada Reformers might, under altered circumstances and changed occasions, contend for to-morrow, and then they would perhaps feel that it would have been wiser and better for them to have allied themselves earlier with those who felt as he (Mr. C.) did upon this question.<sup>87</sup> Mr. Cameron then passed on to the question of the elective legislative council, which he said could not, in his opinion, be worked with our present system of government; but must require as its complement an elective governor<sup>88</sup>. He ... declared that upon that question also he should strenuously oppose the Administration.<sup>89</sup> He gave notice that whenever that question or that of the Reserves came up, he would test the opinion of the House as to the propriety of legislating on subjects of such importance with a Parliament chosen by at least one-third less than the electors authorized by law.<sup>90</sup> It was his intention at the proper time to bring forward some amendment or measure that would submit these two great questions directly to the people, including the new voters under the franchise act, whom he estimated at 50,000 in Upper Canada, in order that they might be decided by them distinctly, without being mixed up with personal and party considerations. He believed that if that were done, the result would be widely different from what some gentlemen expected. He had only further to say that in regard to the position in which the Upper Canadian members of the Administration were placed, they would receive the support, in all measures that were worthy of support, of those who had heretofore acted with them. He could see no combination that could be made in the event of the removal of those gentlemen from the treasury benches, that would give him an administration better or more Conservative, or more likely to stay<sup>91</sup> what he considered the downward course of legislation; than the present union between Conservatives from Upper and Lower Canada.<sup>92</sup> On the contrary he thought that the union which had taken place between the Lower Canadian minister[i]alists and the Upper Canadian Conservatives was a natural one and one more likely to strengthen conservatives' positions than any other that could have taken place.<sup>93</sup> It was more calculated to strengthen that position of resistance he desired to strengthen, than to aid those reforms of which the House had heard so much.<sup>94</sup> Various notices had been given by gentlemen on the opposition benches of extensions of the elective principle, to which he could not assent, and upon those questions he could not doubt although no announcement had yet been made on the subject, that he would be found voting side by side with the ministry. (Hear, hear.)<sup>95</sup> He was sorry for the position of those gentlemen on the Reserves. He believed that property was a link that bound the colonies to the old world, and that in the old colonies<sup>96</sup>, after those who came ... from the old country had passed away<sup>97</sup>, the tie of loyalty was not so much the recollections of a country dear indeed to the first settlers, but gradually becoming weaker and weaker in their descendants, as it was their regard for<sup>98</sup> the temple, the altar and the Church. (Loud cheers.)<sup>99</sup> He believed that the great body of U.E. loyalists regarded that as the best possession they could secure, the dearest right they could struggle for, which was endeared to them by the love of their own hearts, and commended by the divine injunction. Fear God: Honour the King.<sup>100</sup>

MR. FELTON contended, in answer to Mr. Cameron, that the Catholics of Lower Canada adopted no dangerous principle in secularising the reserves, seeing that church property in Lower Canada rested on an entirely different foundation from that of the reserves. The rouges even recognised this distinction.

He blamed Mr. Cameron, therefore, for giving a handle to a party in Upper Canada, as we understood, who were ready to sweep away all the institutions of the country at the expense of commotion and bloodshed.<sup>101</sup>

MR. SCATCHERD thought the gentleman must be out of order, as he had already spoken on the question, and was particularly surprised at his doing so again, as he had insisted so strongly on closing the debate. If he were saying anything interesting indeed--.<sup>102</sup>

MR. SICOTTE the SPEAKER said it depended on the House to hear the gentleman or not.<sup>103</sup>

Cries of go on.<sup>104</sup>

MR. FELTON went on a few minutes longer, contending that the rouges had not, as they alleged, drawn their inspirations from the school of Mr. Lafontaine, since that gentleman had become alarmed at the course he was pursuing, and stopped short in his career.<sup>105</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU began by deprecating the attacks made on the Government in the absence of some of its members, and went on to complain that honorable gentlemen opposite had taken a course unusual in England, assailing the ment on the Address. In England this was never done, except with a strong opposition desirous of taking the government into its own hands. Here the Address seemed to be made the occasion for dissertations de ammbus rebus quibus cunque aliis. It would be far more convenient to all sides to bring up a direct non-confidence vote. The present opposition was unconstitutional, not like that of Messrs. Baldwin and Lafontaine, who, with the most eminent men in the country in their ranks, gave only a constitutional opposition, and discussed only the principles raised by the Address. It was true their opposition was not a democratic one. The Government was certainly placed in a most singular position. It was opposed at present for not being sufficiently liberal, whereas the complaints recently brought against it was (sic) that it was too liberal. The fact, however, was, that there must be some administration, and he did not believe either that the democratic party in Lower Canada could take power, or the independent liberals of Upper Canada. The two strongest parties were the moderate Reformers and moderate Conservatives, and there was nothing of consequence to be yielded by either party in combining.<sup>106</sup> Another argument used was that the alliance had been made at the expense of the Upper Canada liberals. All that was to be said was that it would not have been necessary but for the division among that party, and that it was not effected without providing for the safety of all that portion of the party who had not deserted their friends. All that had been done was to increase the army which marched under the flag of progress.<sup>107</sup> This division was not caused by the Ministerial section of the liberal party.<sup>108</sup> And after all what had the democratic party done? They had made a programme that would be very pleasing, perhaps, to their mothers or nurses; but after all it came to nothing but frequent Parliaments and elective magistrates, with which everything would be for the best in the best possible world. Those who contended for these reforms boasted of the distance by which they had surpassed Messrs. Morin and Lafontaine; but that was the extent to which they had attained--frequent Parliaments, and elective magistrates. Their true object was to oppose all governments, and they therefore opposed this one of which they knew nothing as they had done the last. One hon. member said they had got nothing practical done by the last government but a railroad. He thought that no trifle; but in addition to this the late government had opened up the countries (sic) on

the Saguenay and the St. Lawrence. Those persons who wanted frequent Parliaments and elective magistrates would vote against the ministry, but those who desired constitutional reform would go with them. In allusion to a complaint that ministers had not prevented the passage of a bill in England permitting the Parliament of Canada to arrange the representation of both sections according to their will by simple majority, he said the ministry knew nothing of that measure, but it was at least in accordance with the ideas of gentlemen opposite.

The hon. member went on to remark on the effect of the vote on the Speaker-ship and to recapitulate the various proposed reforms of the government reforms which he contended the country demanded.<sup>109</sup>

MR. LABERGE spoke in French; but part of his remarks, from his position, did not reach the reporters. He remarked on the incongruous elements that were found in the new ministry, and doubted the sincerity of the conversion of the conservatives. The great question, he contended, that this parliament had to deal with was the vote of non-confidence passed by the last parliament. The country had approved of the last house, and it was incumbent on this House to ratify it. The house ought in the first place to settle that question, before canvassing the measures proposed by the ministry. That he held was the proper and constitutional course to take, and it could not take any other consistently with its duty. Yet because they insisted upon enforcing the verdict of the country against the ministry they were called impracticables, men who wanted to overturn everything without being able to build up; in short men who were opposed to all governments. Such weapons, or rather the use of such weapons was not new. Men had often been called impracticables before, and he did not attach much importance to that charge under the circumstances. He personally respected the hon. member for Chicoutimi, and also the other members of the Administration; but he must condemn the alliance between the Lower Canada ministers and the tories, who had always been the persecutors and oppressors of the French Canadians. These could never forget what they had suffered at the hands of the tories. But the defenders of the ministers told them that the tories had become converted. He did not believe in a conversion of 24 hours--it could not be sincere. Besides they had only changed their opinions on three questions namely, the Seigniorial Tenure, the Clergy Reserves, and the Elective Legislative Council, and it required some thing else besides a change of opinion on these questions, to make all the difference between a tory and a reformer. There never was such a conversion made before in the course of one night, as far as the three questions were concerned, and the country could neither accept it nor believe in it. Yet, because his (Mr. L.'s) friends could not accept the position of the administration they were called impracticables. Because they could not follow the course of the hon. member for Chicoutimi, who they believed had abandoned the true principles of reform, they were held up before the country as Rouges, socialists, men who desired to overturn the constitution and institutions of the country, and to promote irreligions. No accusations could be more false or more cowardly. They were nothing of all this but they were in an independent democratic party that demanded certain reforms that they believed the country needed. The tactics of their opponents were to alarm men's fears when they could not convince their judgments. He (Mr. Laberge) did not want to overturn the institutions of Lower Canada, and while he would shed his blood in defence of these which his country needed, he would not spill a drop of ink to protect abuses, but he would try to get them reformed. With respect to the coalition he must state he did not believe that it could be permanent. It could not be so unless one section or



other of the ministry were to consent to abandon all their principles--a thing he did not believe possible. The hon. member for Chicoutimi might perhaps remember the indignation that Mr. Viger encountered a few years ago, for joining the tories, and he (Mr. Laberge) asked on what better principle was the union of hon. members opposite with them now? He was not so much astonished at the union on the part of the tories, for he believed that the inevitable current of events bore them on in that direction. As to the reform party of Lower Canada, he could never entertain much respect for its position, because of the sacrifices it had consented to make in accepting the union. In accepting the union that party had sacrificed Lower Canadian interests, for the sake of expediency, and as a Lower Canadian he could never forgive it for that error. He further condemned that party for the position it held towards the present Government and the last. These were despotic rather than responsible, and they set at naught the opinion of the House.<sup>110</sup>

MR. HUOT spoke in French for some time<sup>111</sup>. [Il dit:] Les nombreux discours déjà entendus pour ou contre l'adresse me dispenseraient de participer à ces débats, mais la position toute exceptionnelle que j'occupe, me met dans la nécessité, à mes yeux, d'expliquer le vote de confiance que j'aurais donné en faveur de l'administration que l'expression de cette chambre vient de renverser, ainsi que la position dans laquelle je me placerai devant la présente combinaison, et de prouver que je reste d'accord avec les principes que j'ai toujours entretenus et que je ne répudierai jamais. Je commence par repousser certaines remarques faites de ce côté-ci de la chambre, sur les fatales conséquences que pourraient (*sic*) avoir l'agitation au sujet des idées démocratiques; je repousse la justesse des comparaisons que l'on essaie d'établir entre les sociétés européennes et leurs luttes, et notre société et ses agitations politiques, et je trouve sans tact et sans vérité les mots que l'on tire du vocabulaire des partis qui ensanglantèrent la France de 1793, pour les appliquer aux hommes à idées avancées qui siègent en cette enceinte. Pour moi, je suis heureux de pouvoir déclarer que je suis démocrate, autant que qui que ce soit ici, mais, comme les démocrates du district de Québec, je dois déclarer que j'éprouvai de la satisfaction à la vue de quelques-uns des actes, quelques-unes des déclarations du ministère Hincks-Morin; actes et déclarations qui prouvaient à mes yeux qu'il savait apprécier son temps, ou que, du moins, il avouait et reconnaissait que le pays avait des tendances évidemment démocratiques, que le vent qui passait sur la terre américaine répandait des idées d'une liberté forte et pure. Ceci explique ma position.

Presque tous les démocrates du pays combattaient contre l'administration Lafontaine, parce que cette administration tendait, suivant nous, à détruire les sentiments d'indépendance chez les citoyens, à centraliser, à étouffer la voix de la presse, à prendre au piège les libertés dont nous étions en droit d'espérer la pratique et les garotter; parce que cette administration, impuissante par l'idée, sans principes, se servait des moyens de proscription, cherchait pour appui des hommes passionnés, pleins de préjugés, qu'elle lançait sans pudeur contre un homme dont le génie oratoire, les services éminents, la grande figure enfin honorent le plus notre histoire et notre race. En voulant détruire la réputation de l'hon. L.J. Papineau, on voulait détruire l'idée démocratique, cette idée souveraine qui a subi d'autres luttes que celle-là, et qui, après avoir passé à travers les orages et les foudres de 1837, revenait en 1849, plus radieuse que jamais, ayant le grand citoyen pour interprète, imposer silence à la réaction et à toutes ses déplorables prétentions. Cette idée démocratique, en forçant l'hon. Lafontaine à résigner, amena l'avant-dernier ministère, dont l'hon. député de Chicoutimi était le chef pour le Bas-Canada.

D'où venaient la plupart des hommes qui composaient cette administration? De quel temps, de quel esprit étaient-ils animés? D'où venaient les honorables députés de Norfolk, de Chicoutimi, de Shefford, du comté de Québec? Ces hommes venaient de la révolution lente et continue, opérée par la puissance des idées; et, quand je parle de révolution, que l'on me comprenne bien: une institution politique que l'on remplace par une autre, est une révolution politique; ce n'est point l'insurrection armée que je préconise, loin de moi! mais la révolution sans corruption, au profit du bien et de la prospérité du pays. Ces hommes venaient donc de la révolution. L'un d'eux avait défendu de sa parole les proscrits de ce temps, l'autre de son talent de publiciste, les autres avaient lutté, souffert, grandi dans un combat de vingt ans, occupés à relever la partie française de la population des humiliations où la jetaient les gouverneurs que l'Angleterre nous envoyait, à faire comprendre à cette population conquise qu'elle était supérieure en nombre à ses conquérants, égale au moins en intelligence, et qu'un avenir certain, peu éloigné, lui réservait incontestablement sa part égale de droits et de puissance dans ce pays. Ces honorables membres, parvenus aux banquettes ministérielles, avaient-ils eu la pensée de trahir leur pays et de compter sur le catalogue des roués politiques? Je ne crois pas qu'aucun de leurs actes ait manifesté cette tendance. J'en suis à me demander ce qu'ils pouvaient faire de plus pour le règlement des grandes questions qui agitent le pays depuis si longtemps? Quel est le démocrate le plus avancé dans cette chambre qui aurait cru que les ministres, avec les difficultés de leur position, comme ministres, les obstacles sans nombre qu'offrent des formes constitutionnelles vicieuses, une foule de préjugés répandus au sein de la population et que la réaction est toujours prête à exploiter à son profit,--pouvaient briser d'un seul coup, du sommet à la base, nos lois politiques et les remplacer par le programme complet des démocrates? Cette opinion serait absurde. Nous avons été soumis à un régime réactionnaire assez longtemps. Par l'entrée de ces honorables membres au pouvoir, nous nous préparions à une transition heureuse et conciliante; le fleuve reprenait son cours; les idées démocratiques fécondées par le sang des martyres (sic) de 1837 étaient acceptées, la révolution avait son heure de triomphe certain, éclatant. Voilà pourquoi je m'étais senti satisfait de voir que chaque chose reprenait sa place, que cette opposition qui achève aux jours de 1837, s'était faite en partie pouvoir, que l'idée crucifiée hier était l'idée couronnée aujourd'hui. Du moins j'avais pensé cela. La position qu'occupait (sic) vis-à-vis de cette administration plusieurs députés du parti démocrate pourrait faire croire que je me suis trompé. On peut accuser de tiédeur, d'avoir fermé les yeux sur des questions de détail qui compromettaient cette administration sur la corruption, des spéculations[s] honteuses, que sais-je? sur tout ce dont se sont rendues coupables presque toutes les administrations précédentes et se rendront coupables les administrations à venir, si on laisse les lois à ce sujet telles qu'elles sont, avec les portes ouvertes à la corruption, à ces spéculations honteuses, à toutes les mauvaises passions humaines, enfin, si l'on pensait ainsi à mon égard, on se tromperait étrangement. S'il eût été des ministres prévaricateurs siégeant en cette enceinte, des hommes qui se fussent servi de leur position de ministres pour spéculer à même les fonds publics, de leur influence sur le cours de l'industrie, du commerce, sur le développement des travaux publics à leur profit, au détriment du pays, j'aurais été un des premiers à frapper, à chasser ces vendeurs du temple, quelque fussent leurs talents. On a fortement accusé un ministre du Haut-Canada d'avoir trempé dans de semblables agiotages. On est venu ici faire revivre sans but les accusations de la presse à son sujet. Pour moi je crois que la

position de législateurs de notre pays nous engage à être, par-dessus toute chose, dignes et équitables dans nos expressions sur une question aussi délicate que celle-là. Et avant qu'une enquête régulière soit tenue, sur le plus ou le moins de vérité que comportent ces accusations, et qu'il soit fait rapport, je crois qu'il est souverainement injuste envers l'accusé de le condamner sans l'entendre,--et même de venir ici répéter les imprudentes accusations d'une presse passionnée, tandis qu'il est si facile d'en prouver l'évidence ou la nullité par cette enquête.

Dans tous les cas, sans croire encore à la gravité des accusations qui ont été portées contre un ex-ministre du Haut-Canada, ce m'est une consolation de dire que les ministres pour la partie inférieure de la province, n'ont reçu aucune attaque de ce genre de la part de la presse, aussi bien que des hon. membres de cette Chambre. Je m'en glorifie pour eux, pour la nationalité à laquelle tous ou presque tous appartiennent--comme pour la section de la province qu'ils sont censés représenter plus spécialement.

Maintenant je demanderai encore une fois si ces hommes ont renié leur passé et les promesses qu'ils avaient faites. Pour moi, j'ai cru que généralement l'esprit qui les avait guidés dans leur passage aux affaires était selon le progrès et la liberté du pays. Trois mesures essentielles se présentaient à eux. Le règlement de la Tenure Seigneuriale tendait à briser une législation séculaire, à rendre le travail libre, à élever le censitaire presque au niveau d'un vrai citoyen, à faire disparaître enfin de notre condition sociale cette cause incessante de difficultés, de colère, de misères souvent, d'amoindrissement toujours, pour le peuple qui vit sous ce système.

Le projet d'élire les membres du Conseil Législatif modifiait profondément une institution qui avait été le suprême moyen de tyrannie entre les mains d'une misérable oligarchie et d'où était sortie avec ses échafauds et ses martyrs l'insurrection de 1837. Il y avait du sang sur cette partie de notre constitution, et ce m'est un bonheur de dire que partout où une pareille chose arrive, où une loi est assez défectueuse pour arrêter l'emploi des ressources d'un pays, assez immorale pour donner lieu à l'action du bourreau sur des têtes humaines, cette loi tomba bientôt sous le mépris des populations. Les Réserves du Clergé, question qui occupe depuis longtemps la partie supérieure de la province et a attiré maintes fois l'attention des divers parlements, demandait une solution.

Pour moi, ces trois questions sont soeurs; elles ont la liberté pour mère, elles tendent toutes trois à modifier en partie nos institutions politiques et sociales sans danger aucun; au contraire, pour assurer le maintien de l'ordre et élever la richesse dans le pays. Et lorsque je vis ces ministres accepter ces trois questions, considérer sans crainte les difficultés de leur règlement, déclarer par l'organe de l'honorable Commissaire des Terres à propos de l'élection du Conseil Législatif, que l'esprit qui régnait ici était démocratique, cela me suffit; il me semblait que les hommes disaient au passé: Nous te renions, parce que tu es flétri, parce que tu n'es qu'un reste de la tyrannie, de l'ignorance et de la mauvaise foi européennes jeté sur cette terre de l'Amérique où tout tend à se développer, hommes et choses, dans le sens de leur nature, librement, avec vigueur, nous te renions parce que tu es la mort, pour accepter l'avenir qui sera l'existence féconde, la prospérité pour notre pays. Quel est celui qui dira que ce seul fait du ministère d'avoir touché à ces institutions, pris la tâche de les modifier ou de les détruire, n'ait pas puissamment contribué à faire accepter les idées démocratiques. Il existe au sein de tout pays un certain nombre d'hommes politiques tièdes et craintifs que toute innovation dérange, pour qui le mot



démocratie signifie désordre en permanence, socialisme, communisme, et maintes autres calomnies que l'on a jetées sur ce nom pour en faire un nom d'horreur. Eh bien! croit-on que ces hommes en voyant des ministres comme ceux du Bas-Canada dont la voix était puissante sur eux, les principes et la vie une garantie d'ordre, proclamer ces idées, croit-on, dis-je, que ces hommes n'ont pas dû se sentir plus forts, portés à envisager sans crainte les questions nouvelles, accepter les hommes nouveaux, après avoir vu surtout que la discussion sur ces grandes questions n'avait nullement troublé le pays ou nui à la facilité de leur digestion?

Pour moi, j'en suis fortement convaincu, ce ministère a servi la cause de la démocratie en autant que sa position comme pouvoir le lui permettait.

On l'a accusé d'avoir apporté du retard à la solution des questions qu'il avait acceptées en leur donnant l'appui de son nom. Je ne suis pas assez injuste pour ne pas leur faire la part encore une fois des difficultés qu'ils ont rencontrées dans leur situation comme ministres et comme colons, ainsi que dans la gravité des sujets à régler. Si nous n'avions pas eu derrière notre chambre des députés, trois ou quatre autres pouvoirs coloniaux et métropolitains par le creuset desquels ces questions devaient passer, si nous eussions marché librement dans notre indépendance, nous aurions eu satisfaction plus tôt, je n'en doute pas. Je ne suis même pas fâché que ces questions n'aient pas été réglées sous l'ancienne chambre, en partie composée d'hommes surannés, de seigneurs avides; quelles (sic) reviennent au contraire aujourd'hui plus ardentes que jamais au sein d'une chambre comptant un bon nombre d'hommes nouveaux, de sérieuses et patriotiques convictions de manière à faire supposer du moins que le règlement de ces questions conviendra aux sentiments et aux intérêts publics. Mais si j'eusse pensé que l'appel au peuple par suite du vote du 20 juin dernier eût comporté quelque chose d'inconstitutionnel, eût été un abus de la prérogative, j'aurais donné un vote de non confiance au dernier ministère. Mais, suivant moi, le moyen pris dans cette circonstance était parfaitement constitutionnel.<sup>112</sup> Il était d'ailleurs une opinion puissante et qui m'avait porté définitivement à accepter ce ministère. Cette décision de ma part venait de ce que l'honorable L.J. Papineau, n'ayant pu voter sur l'adresse dans le dernier parlement, avait cependant manifesté hautement cette opinion que le ministère avait, quoiqu'un peu tard, pris la seule démarche constitutionnelle en déclarant ne vouloir passer aucune loi avant que la loi sur l'augmentation de la représentation fût mise en force, et que pour lui, il eût voté en faveur du ministère. Cette opinion du chef avoué du parti démocrate, de celui qui, pendant 40 ans, a professé, propagé avec une force suprême ces principes, est ma règle de conduite. Et il m'est pénible de voir que le district de Montréal, qui a noblement fait son devoir cependant en élisant une phalange de jeunes démocrates dévoués et capables, n'ait pas jugé à propos d'envoyer de nouveau l'honorable L.J. Papineau dans cette chambre, où l'autorité de son nom et son expérience n'eussent pas manqué de régulariser les forces du parti. D'ailleurs sa place était ici; au siège de l'orateur cette année peut-être, ou à un autre siège, qu'importe, il devait siéger dans cette enceinte, eut-il dû y venir comme Chatham, mourant, mais protestant toujours contre la paix, en faveur de la guerre sans cesse contre le privilège, l'union, la connexion, contre l'idée victorieuse dans le passé, vaincue aujourd'hui, si l'on savait employer avec tact et prudence les forces que l'on possède. Voilà quels furent les motifs qui me firent adopter cette position.

Maintenant que ce ministère a été renversé, non pas sur ses mesures, mais sur le plus ou moins de confiance personnelle que quelques ministres pouvaient

inspirer, je demanderais sincèrement si l'opposition qu'on lui a faite a frappé juste, à son but; si les libéraux du Haut-Canada y ont gagné comme parti, si les démocrates du Bas-Canada n'ont pas reculé l'époque de leur puissance, l'heure où leurs idées auraient pu d'une manière plus facile et plus rapide, faire brèche dans nos mauvaises institutions politiques. Que l'on prenne bien garde! Lorsque l'on vient, représentant du peuple, élever dans cette enceinte un drapeau jeune, faible encore, on accepte une grave responsabilité, surtout si l'on se jette trop avant dans la mêlée au risque de voir ce drapeau, quoique défendu avec talent et courage, déchiré cependant, enlevé par l'ignorance, le préjugé et l'intrigue. Il était un moyen, je le crois, plus prudent, plus capable de faire arriver une idée, un principe, un parti à son but. Et quand je parle ainsi, que l'on me comprenne bien! Je ne suis pas de taille à prêcher des condescendances qui aillent droit à l'apostasie, à établir qu'il faut prendre une cocarde blanche d'une main, une rouge de l'autre pour être prêt à baiser les pieds de toutes les puissances; non, mais lorsque l'on a des convictions bien arrêtées, il faut prendre des moyens tout aussi honnêtes que ceux que l'on a pris pour faire triompher ses convictions; il faut être honnête, mais dupe le moins possible. Je n'ai le droit ni la prétention de juger telle idée, tel moyen employé, mais je suis d'opinion et je crois ne pas me tromper en disant que si le parti démocrate, par exemple, se fût, non pas lié, mais rapproché du dernier ministère en lui donnant un appui indépendant et lui faisant voir que son maintien ou sa chute dépendait de lui, qu'il n'aurait qu'à ouvrir la main pour le laisser tomber, je crois, dis-je, que si le parti démocrate eut agi ainsi, il aurait plus favorablement travaillé au succès de ses idées, au triomphe de ses principes, et je ne crois pas me tromper en disant que le ministère les eût acceptés, eux et une partie de leurs idées, et que c'eût été un bonheur pour les hommes convaincus de voir ses (sic) idées se réaliser sans lutte trop grande et sans danger.

La tactique contraire a amené une fusion qui pourra bien être un résultat peu favorable comme pouvoir mais assez consolant comme pièce pour servir à l'histoire du pays. Il me semble que, par cette union des conservateurs avec les démocrates modérés, les premiers acceptant les principes des derniers, nous sommes le point de départ d'une époque nouvelle, époque de transformation des partis et dont j'augurerais la prospérité du pays, si cette combinaison est sincère dans l'exposé de ses vues. L'avenir décidera sur ce point. Mais, s'il faut le dire, je n'ai guère confiance en des hommes qui ont marché sans cesse, étendards déployés, armes au poing contre les idées libérales dans le Haut-Canada; je ne puis concevoir comment des hommes qui pendant un demi siècle n'ont vu la société que d'un côté, qui ont vécu, grandi avec une idée et lutté pour elle avec courage dans des moments suprêmes, comment les représentants ici d'une partie de la vieille civilisation anglaise puissent renier ainsi leur doctrine, rejeter leur vieux drapeau, admettre par le règlement des trois grandes questions qui agitent le pays et qui tendent, l'une à la liberté du travail, l'autre à la liberté du culte, la troisième au développement de la souveraineté populaire, admettre, dis-je, par le règlement de ces questions, que l'ont peut toucher à toutes les institutions politiques, qu'elles ne sont sacrées qu'en autant qu'elles sont utiles et salutaires, qu'enfin ils ont été vaincus dans cette lutte qui existe dans le Bas-Canada depuis la conquête entre les vainqueurs et les conquis, et, dans le Haut-Canada, entre l'esprit conservateur et démocratique, l'ancienne et la nouvelle société. Cela est malaisé, je me défie de ce fait sans le nier cependant, car nous sommes sur un terrain nouveau ici, dans un pays jeune où le caractère des partis peut subir de rapides changements, dans une société où il existe un mouvement dont

le but est évident à tous les yeux et qui défie tous les obstacles. Il pourrait bien se faire alors que les ministres pour la partie supérieure de la Province ainsi que leurs partisans, se trouvant soumis à ce courant impétueux qui dans notre Amérique entraîne, absorbe tout, idées, principes, nationalités, placé vis-à-vis de ce travail immense, continu, dont l'effet se fait sentir sur nous et qui tend à faire sortir de cette multitude d'hommes que l'Europe nous envoie, de ce cahot d'origines, de tendances, de souvenirs, d'affections contraires, un monde nouveau, créé à l'image de cette république qui reçoit les nombreux enfants que l'Europe dans ses misères ne peut nourrir et lui renvoie surtout dans ses oeuvres de génie qui a présidé à sa grandeur. Il pourrait bien se faire, dis-je, que ces hommes comprissent enfin l'inutilité pour eux de se placer devant ces idées, leur barrer le passage, ou bien que ces idées dont la pratique était salutaire dans un autre pays, pourraient l'être dans le nôtre et convenir seule à notre prospérité. Sans entrer dans le mérite de pareilles hypothèses, je dirai en définitive à cette administration comme j'aurais dit à la précédente: pour moi les hommes ne sont rien, ce sont leurs mesures que je prétends juger; j'attendrai donc les mesures. Aujourd'hui j'approuve l'idée qui appuie la combinaison nouvelle, je la laisse passer.

Entre l'idée cependant et la pratique, entre la doctrine et la réalisation, il y a souvent un abîme. L'adresse contient bien la promesse que l'administration entend régler immédiatement les grandes mesures attendues depuis longtemps, mais de quelle manière les règlera-t-elle?

Le projet de loi pour la tenure seigneuriale n'est pas encore connu; tel qu'il a été présenté dans les dernières sessions, il serait, je crois, insuffisant. Depuis ce temps, des conventions ont été établies dans le pays et y ont jeté une agitation tellement profonde qu'il faut de suite régler cette question, si on ne veut pas que le flot de la colère monte et emporte d'un coup, corvées et banalités, rentes et lods et ventes, seigneurs et manoirs. Devant l'opinion publique irritée à ce point dans quelque partie du pays surtout, il faut des concessions que l'ancien projet de loi ne comporte pas, et qui, sans blesser les droits des seigneurs, assureront les censitaires que le règlement de cette question ne sera pas dans l'avenir une cause de misères pour eux.--Après être entré dans quelques considérations sur la sécularisation des réserves, considérations qui tendent à vouloir que le septième des terres réservé à certains cultes dans le Haut-Canada retourne au fond consolidé,--après avoir exprimé son opinion sur le conseil législatif, dont il considère l'élection comme un obstacle puissant pour longtemps aux idées démocratiques, et dont il voudrait l'abolition, en ne faisant dans le pays qu'une seule chambre, M. Huot dit que, sur ces questions, il sera parfaitement indépendant, et qu'en exprimant son opinion sur elles, opinion susceptible d'être modifiée cependant par les circonstances, par la crainte de quelque chose de pis, il entend être juste et apprécier avec sincérité les efforts de l'administration.

Il comprend qu'une adresse contient les questions qu'un ministère veut appuyer de son nom; l'adresse lui convient alors parce qu'elle promet aujourd'hui une partie de ce que le pays demande et dont il a le plus immédiatement besoin (sic). Il espère que le ministère ne s'opposera point à la passation d'autres mesures que le pays et la morale publique réclament impérieusement. La loi sur l'augmentation du suffrage, exigeant l'inscription du nom des voteurs, empêchera le retour de ces élections où le peuple vote sans mesure. Il est de plus à la connaissance d'un grand nombre que des élections ont été faites au sein d'une corruption effrénée, de cette corruption qui ne permettra bientôt plus qu'à des hommes riches de devenir députés; qui tend à détruire le



sentiment de noble indépendance qui convient à tout homme libre, en essayant d'établir une échelle, un tarif sur ses convictions. Le vote au scrutin secret, quoique susceptible d'abus lui-même, remédierait du moins à cet abus, le plus déplorable de tous. Le scrutin, dit-on, diminue l'énergie d'un peuple en le faisant échapper, ou en ne l'exposant point à exprimer tout haut son opinion. Sans admettre ce fait, il le préférerait encore au cynisme vers lequel le peuple commence à marcher. Avec une pareille loi, on donnerait à l'électeur une opinion sans contrôle et par suite l'occasion d'établir un jugement médité, à l'abri des passions et des intérêts personnels. Avec l'ancienne loi, il sera impossible de compter sur l'opinion publique, il n'y en aura bientôt plus; ce sera un corps que des gros sols pourront seuls galvaniser.

Si cette loi, continue le membre pour le Saguenay, à laquelle beaucoup de personnes opposées d'abord se rattachent aujourd'hui comme une nécessité, eut été mise en pratique, on n'aurait pas à déplorer ces élections dont la violence devait être d'autant mieux prévue que la loi était vicieuse, et que le peuple avait d'immenses intérêts en jeu, intérêts si profonds qu'ils l'ont poussé à passer par tous les moyens pour les satisfaire ou les protéger.

Le vote au scrutin serait une loi démocratique et saperait beaucoup le patronage. C'est la raison qui en a empêché la pratique probablement. Et à ce sujet je me permettrai de dire un mot. Sans prétendre que la démocratie soit une doctrine politique capable de satisfaire tous les sentiments et tous les intérêts, remédier à tous les abus, je crois seulement qu'elle porte en elle une source plus pure et plus féconde de bien et de vertus politiques, qu'elle est plus propre à notre pays que toute doctrine contraire. Et c'est un devoir pour nous, démocrates, d'expliquer au peuple trompé sur ces idées par la calomnie et le préjugé, que la démocratie ne vient pas de 1793. Autant vaudrait dire que la Saint-Barthélemy vient de la religion, ce serait une erreur; elle est en nous, elle a marché de tout temps avec l'humanité, s'exprimant dans l'antiquité fortement, mais sans suite, sans logique, et commençant à prendre une forme plus distincte et de plus en plus appréciable à mesure que les vérités du christianisme envahissent le monde et jettent par la foi les sentiments miséricordieux dans les âmes. La démocratie, et non la démagogie, me paraît destinée, et j'en suis convaincu, à transporter dans la loi qui régit les hommes, la charité et l'égalité de l'Evangile, la charité qui tend à soulager la misère, l'égalité qui tend à faire, des hommes différents d'origines, de frères unis par l'amour envers leur pays. La démocratie protège tous les cultes en leur laissant la liberté de se développer ou de dépérir suivant qu'ils ont en eux plus ou moins de la vérité éternelle. Sous son aile, le sentiment religieux est à l'abri, jamais elle ne l'étouffera; au contraire, elle ne vit que par lui, elle est en conséquence véritablement logique, providentielle dans l'ordre politique.

Déjà passée en grande partie dans la pratique ici, elle a pour elle l'avenir, et ce n'est pas parce qu'elle donnera la puissance à ses adeptes qu'elle est ma croyance politique, mais parce que je suis convaincu qu'elle contient en ses flancs tous les éléments d'ordre et de prospérité possibles pour le pays. Et nous sommes le mieux du monde situés pour les pratiquer; nous avons d'abord l'exemple d'Etats voisins, hier colons chétifs et sans vigueur, aujourd'hui nation superbe, parce qu'elle a noblement porté ce drapeau démocratique. Ce n'est pas l'annexion que je prêche, c'est un exemple évident que je cite de la vérité de cette doctrine politique qui peut exister presque aussi bien sous une monarchie constitutionnelle, que sous une république. De plus il n'existe guère ici d'institutions politiques qui soient d'assez difficile

solution pour être des obstacles sérieux à notre marche vers ce but. Nous ne sommes donc point placés comme diverses nations Européennes avec lesquelles on nous compare, sans logique, suivant moi, et où, pour introduire une loi des temps et de l'esprit modernes, il faut briser des lois séculaires, rompre la tradition de milliers de siècles, détruire des usages, des intérêts puissants et qui se lient intimement à un autre ordre de choses, où il faut contenir d'un côté, les fougueuses aspirations d'un prolétariat immense, de l'autre, la cruauté impitoyable de la réaction; où enfin deux sociétés pleines de doutes sont en présence et luttent à qui donnera et plantera plus fermement son drapeau sur les plaines de l'une ou de l'autre.

Nos luttes à nous ne peuvent avoir le même caractère; notre position nous permet d'obtenir en paix et graduellement, article par article, le programme de cette doctrine, de manière à pouvoir arriver sans surprise, préparés à la destinée que nous réserve la providence. C'est donc à nous de profiter de cette position sans retard, de peur que, dans un moment qui n'est peut-être pas très éloigné, le peuple augmenté, comme tout augmente et se développe ici, ne vienne dans un moment de crise peut-être, qu'en sait-on? avec un nombre de prolétaires, arracher au pouvoir ses droits au suffrage universel, par exemple, et prendre par là un degré de confiance dans sa force qui serait fatal, au lieu que si ce droit lui était donné dès aujourd'hui, le peuple, s'accroissant par l'immigration, pourrait s'habituer peu à peu au fonctionnement d'une pareille loi. Je sais qu'il est d'honorables membres dont je respecte l'opinion et le caractère, qui ne reconnaissent pas la nécessité et l'utilité d'une pareille loi, qui n'admettent point que dès qu'un droit est reconnu et dont la pratique serait sans danger, il vaut mieux l'accorder comme concession faite à une opinion violente.

Pour moi, c'est animé de cette conviction, que je me déclare pour une loi sur le suffrage universel vers lequel nous n'avons plus qu'un pas à faire pour arriver.

Que tout homme qui, à vingt-un ans, gère ses affaires, réside au pays depuis un an, ait droit de voter. Que tout homme de 21 ans à qui la patrie dans des jours de danger et d'infortune, confie un fusil pour sa défense, ait un bulletin avec lequel il ne trahira pas plus son pays qu'il ne l'aurait trahi avec son fusil. Que tout homme, depuis cet âge, qui travaille, ouvrier dans toutes classes, depuis le magasin et l'étude jusqu'au chantier, qui a du pain aujourd'hui et pourrait bien ne pas en avoir demain, nous sommes tous soumis à cela, que ce travailleur ait droit de voter, car il votera pour son intérêt, pour conserver l'ordre public, l'ordre qui élève l'industrie et le travail, tandis qu'en créant le désordre, il jetterait sa famille dans la misère. Toute loi dans ce sens aura mon appui.

Je n'entrerai pas dans toutes les considérations qu'offrent les détails d'une pareille doctrine, le système électif, par exemple, que j'approuve; j'aurai occasion peut-être plus tard de revenir sur ce sujet. Je me contenterai maintenant de définir en deux mots ma position devant l'administration.

Je ne suis nullement engagé envers elle; j'en suis parfaitement indépendant, mais, sentant la nécessité d'un pouvoir quelconque qui puisse le mieux régler nos grandes questions, je ne le gênerai en rien pour ma part, s'il le faut bien, au contraire, je voterai sincèrement pour lui; je lui rendrai d'abord la justice qu'en Angleterre des hommes d'un parti opposé rendent à une administration nouvelle, je voterai pour elle, et je jugerai ses mesures dans l'avenir<sup>113</sup> afin de lui donner ... un fair trial.<sup>114</sup>

MR. TURCOTTE spoke in French in reply to Mr. Laberge, and contended that his position, that the House was principally elected to upset the administra-

tion was a very absurd one. The hon. member (Mr. Laberge) pleaded he (Mr. Turcotte) asserted that this present ministry had already done more to advance democratic doctrines than any other that had ever preceded it. The young men opposite had never done any thing towards bringing the institutions to their present liberal condition; and he considered that becoming gratitude towards the men who had laboured towards that end would become them better than captiousners (*sic*). The hon. member reproached the Government for the alliance that had been made; but what sort of an alliance did the hon. member make? The hon. member perhaps considered the hon. member for Lambton a good Catholic ally? He did not want to overturn the religious institutions of the country, yet he took the member for Lambton for an ally. (Laughter.) Did the hon. member consider that the opposition had no responsibility? And did he think that he was less blameable for allying himself with Mr. Brown than Mr. Morin with Sir Allan McNab? (Hear, hear.) That which was horrible and monstrous in a Government was commendable and admirable in an opposition--such was the hon. member's logic. The hon. member said he did not desire to overturn the institutions of the country, but was he not an annexationist? (Hear, hear.) Were not all his party annexationists? (Hear, hear.) Had they forgotten that the prominent ... of their demand was for annexation? If they had forgotten that, their memories were short--it would not however require a long memory to take in their career (*sic*). The people of Canada would not listen to it. As to the hon. member's remarks about the union, he (Mr. Turcotte) believed that he was entirely in error and that the union had been a benefit to the whole country. Since the union the position of the Lower Canadians had been better than before,--and it had contributed to advance the best interests of the country. It was not the union that put down the Canadians at St. Eustache, and St. Charles. Since the union they had free Government and municipal institutions, and the latter especially was daily making progress. Notwithstanding the hon. member's (Mr. Laberge's) denial he (Mr. Turcotte) asserted that the rouge or mountain party desired to upset the whole of the present framework of society, and to overturn all present institutions. Entertaining such a belief he could have no sympathy with them, and gave his support to the coalition.<sup>115</sup>

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*Mr. Wright moved, seconded by Mr. Frazer, and the Question being put, That the Debate be further adjourned until To-morrow;  
The House divided:*

*Yeas, 36.*

*Nays, 43.*

*So it passed in the Negative.*

*And the Question being again proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his Speech pronounced from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:*

*That we thank His Excellency for the satisfaction expressed by him at meet-*

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*ing the Legislature, and that we believe, with His Excellency, that the increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has hitherto existed for the due Representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province;*



To assure His Excellency that we will give our best consideration to the subjects of great magnitude and importance which will necessarily come under our consideration during the Session which is now commencing:

That we, in view of the two Acts which the Imperial Parliament, advancing with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed, feel the grave responsibilities thereby imposed on the Canadian Legislature:

That as to the one of these Acts which empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council, although the substitution of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown in the appointment of Members of that body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience, as Parliamentary Government and Ministerial Responsibility in the British sense of the term are for the most part unknown to the Constitution of Countries where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers, we think that in order to give to that important Branch of the Legislature the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some change in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required; and we trust that the difficulties to which His Excellency has referred will be surmounted by our endeavours, and by the patriotism of the Members of that Honorable Body:

That the other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province, we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able, without difficulty, to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction:

That the condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interest both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada, having to look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighboring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals:

That we will consider the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions in Lower Canada, in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which since its introduction has contributed so materially to the prosperity of Upper Canada; and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. The other subjects of importance upon which measures may be submitted for our deliberation, will be also attentively considered:

That the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, when laid before us, will receive our best attention, and that

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His Excellency may rely on our readiness to make the necessary provision for

the exigencies of the Public Service:

That our attention will be called to the prosperous condition of the Revenue as affording an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect Raw Materials employed in Ship-building and other branches of manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others, to which Articles entering largely into the consumption of the People are now subject:

That we will be glad to receive Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's Subjects in British North America on the one hand, and the Citizens of the United States on the other, and we will consider the propriety of amending the Act passed in eighteen hundred and forty-nine, for the free admission into Canada of certain Articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty:

That we learn with satisfaction that the Government and Congress of the United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and that we are disposed to meet them by a corresponding spirit:

That it is our hope that the removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada into the markets of the United States, will have a tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province;

And a Debate arising thereupon;

On motion of Mr. Scatcherd, seconded by Mr. Biggar,

Ordered, That the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.<sup>116</sup>

The Order of the day for the second reading of the Bill to compel the attendance of Witnesses upon the Superior Courts in any part of Canada, being read;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.

Then, on motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Frazer,

The House adjourned.





APPENDIX: 18 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO AMEND PATENT LAW.]

MR. SANBORN [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to amend the law relating to Patents for inventions.<sup>117</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO IMPROVE BETTERMENTS LAW.]

MR. SANBORN [gave notice that] on Thursday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to improve the law relating to Betterments.<sup>118</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO EXTEND LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS ACT TO LOWER CANADA.]

MR. BELLINGHAM [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to extend the Act intituled "An Act to authorize limited partnerships in Upper Canada" to Lower Canada.<sup>119</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO SECULARIZE CLERGY RESERVES.]

MR. FOLEY [donne avis que] mercredi prochain [il demandera permission d'introduire un] Bill pour pourvoir à la sécularisation des terres communément connues sous le nom de "Réserves du clergé," et d'employer le produit aux fins des écoles communes.<sup>120</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL TO INCORPORATE MASSON COLLEGE.]

MR. PREVOST, donne avis que jeudi prochain il demandera permission d'introduire un bill pour incorporer le collège Masson à Terrebonne.<sup>121</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: MONTREAL AND BYTOWN RAILWAY COMPANY PAPERS.]

MR. PREVOST [gave notice that] on Thursday next [he would move] that the Clerk of this House do call upon the Montreal and Bytown Railway Company to lay before this House without delay:--

1. A list of the names of the first Directors of the Company, shewing the number of shares subscribed for by such Directors respectively, if any, and what amount paid thereon; also, the names of the present Directors, of the President, Vice President, and other officers of the said Company, the salaries allowed to the said President, Vice President and other officers, with a copy of the Resolutions fixing such salaries, and what sums have been paid on account of the said salaries.

2. A true copy of the names entered on the stock books of the Company, showing the number of shares, the sums subscribed by each stockholder, and the amount already paid by each subscriber, with a statement of the Debentures, received from the Municipalities respectively, which have taken shares in the said Company, and of those still remaining to be issued, showing the transaction which has taken place with ... Municipality of Terrebonne, to remit to that Municipality the interest on the Debentures furnished to the said Company, and how much has been paid to the mayors and Secretary Treasurers of the different Municipalities for the time occupied by them in signing the Debenture issued.

3. A statement shewing whether the contract price for the said road exceeds the capital of the said Company, and the amount of shares subscribed,

how much has been paid on account of the said contract price, and whether for that purpose loans have been effected by the said Company, and Debentures issued? Finally, a copy of the contract or bargain made between the said Company and the contractors for the said Road.<sup>122</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION: THAT SPEAKER ISSUE WRIT FOR BAGOT.]

MR. J. DORION (Drummondville et Arthabaska) [donne avis que] demain [il fera motion] que l'orateur émane son mandat pour faire faire l'élection d'un représentant pour le comté de Bagot.<sup>123</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: NORMAL SCHOOL IN LOWER CANADA.]

MR. A. DORION (of Montreal) [gave notice that] on Thursday next [he would make] Enquiry of Ministry, what are the reasons which have hitherto prevented the establishment of a Normal School in Lower Canada, in conformity with the Act passed in 1851, (15 Vic. ch. 97), and whether it is the intention of the Government to have the said School opened?<sup>124</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: WITHDRAWAL OF BRITISH TROOPS FROM CANADA.]

CAPT. RHODES [gave notice that] on Thursday next [he would make] Enquiry of Ministry, whether they will place before the House such information as they are in possession of relative to the removal of a large majority of Her Majesty's Forces from this Province, so as to enable this House to make such provision as may be considered necessary under the circumstances.<sup>125</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION: WHETHER COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES TO CONFORM WITH NEW ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.]

MR. SANBORN [gave notice that] on Wednesday next [he would make] Enquiry, whether the Ministry intend to propose a general measure during this Session to make the County Municipalities conformable to the new Electoral Divisions of the Counties, and if they intend to introduce a Bill to establish Registry Offices in the new Counties.<sup>126</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: AGRICULTURE PORTFOLIO.]

MR. BROWN [donne avis que] mercredi prochain [il] demandera à l'administration si Sir Allan McNab est président du Bureau [d'agriculture], et s'il ne l'est pas, qui l'est.<sup>127</sup>

[QUESTION AND ANSWER RE: AMENDMENT OF 16 VIC. C. 213 TO SUBMIT REGULATIONS PASSED UNDER IT TO THE MUNICIPAL ELECTORS.]

MR. PREVOST demande si le ministère a [l']intention d'amender l'acte passé dans le dernier parlement, chap. 213, de manière à soumettre les règlements qui pourront être passés par les municipalités dans le Bas-Canada en vertu de cette loi, à l'approbation des électeurs municipaux des localités pour lesquelles tels règlements auront été ainsi adoptés comme le veut le statut, ch. 138, passé dans la même session pour autoriser la municipalité de Terrebonne et autres à prendre des actions dans les compagnies de chemin de fer.<sup>128</sup>

A cette question le ministère répond qu'il s'engage à faire amender cette loi.<sup>129</sup>

[WITHDRAWN MOTION RE: MORNING SITTING.]

A conversation arose on a motion of MR. CHISHOLM to have a morning sitting, but he withdrew it on the understanding that the debate on the address should be concluded tomorrow.<sup>130</sup>



FOOTNOTES: 18 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 19 September 1854.
2. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 21 September 1854, printed an extract from the Votes and Proceedings, which had it that second reading of this bill was ordered for the third of October.
3. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
4. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
5. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
6. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
7. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
8. IBID.
9. IBID.
10. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 19 September 1854.
11. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
12. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 19 September 1854.
13. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
14. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
15. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
16. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
17. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
18. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
19. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
20. IBID.
21. IBID.
22. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
23. QUEBEC GAZETTE, 19 September 1854.
24. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
25. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
26. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
27. GLOBE, 23 September 1854. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854, has, "When he [Mr. Powell] heard of the changes that had taken place, he expressed his conviction that confidence was a plant of slow growth, and that he did not think that the change which had taken place upon the part of the Conservative members, would produce any want of confidence in the public mind."
28. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
29. IBID.
30. IBID.
31. IBID.
32. IBID.
33. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
34. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
35. IBID.
36. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
37. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
38. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
39. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
40. IBID.
41. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
42. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
43. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
44. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
45. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.

46. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
47. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
48. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
49. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
50. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
51. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
52. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
53. IBID.
54. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
55. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
56. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
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94. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
95. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
96. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
97. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
98. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.

99. GLOBE, 23 September 1854.
100. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
101. IBID.
102. IBID.
103. IBID.
104. IBID.
105. IBID.
106. PILOT, 22 September 1854.
107. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
108. PILOT, 22 September 1854.
109. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854.
110. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854, commented:  
"L'auditoire était nombreux, les galeries encombrées, et M. LABERGE a su, pendant près d'une heure, captiver l'attention de tous ceux qui se trouvaient dans la Chambre d'Assemblée." Il "a été, à plusieurs reprises, vivement applaudi."
111. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854, which went on, " ... but in so feeble a tone of voice that his words did not reach the gallery." The correspondent of LE PAYS, 21 September 1854, remarked, "Sa voix un peu faible et surtout la position désavantageuse dans laquelle il se trouvait, en conséquence des arrangements actuels qui relèguent sous les tribunes un tiers des représentants, ne m'ont pas permis de saisir tout ce qu'il a dit, mais j'en ai compris assez pour dire que M. Huot parle avec beaucoup de grâce, et que son style est pur et châtié." It may be deduced from these comments and from the literary style of the speech, which LE PAYS later copied from LE CANADIEN and which we use in our reconstruction of the debate, that Mr. Huot had written up his own speech for publication.
112. LE PAYS, 5 October 1854.
113. LE PAYS, 7 October 1854.
114. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
115. MORNING CHRONICLE, 21 September 1854. The ellipsis represents an illegible word.
116. The telegraph report (HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 23 September 1854) said, "The debate continued till after eleven o'clock and the House adjourned."
117. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 21 September 1854.
118. IBID.
119. IBID.
120. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
121. IBID.
122. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 21 September 1854. The ellipsis represents an illegible word.
123. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
124. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 21 September 1854.
125. IBID.
126. SHERBROOKE GAZETTE, 26 September 1854.
127. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
128. LE PAYS, 21 September 1854.
129. IBID.
130. SHERBROOKE GAZETTE, 26 September 1854.



TUESDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(69)

MR. Speaker acquainted the House, That his Warrant for the appointment of Members to serve on the General Committee of Elections, was upon the Table;-- And the said Warrant was read, as followeth:--

Pursuant to the thirtieth Section of "The Election Petitions Act of 1851," I do hereby appoint the Honorable William Hamilton Merritt, Member for the County of Lincoln; Antoine Polette, Esquire, Member for the Town of Three Rivers; John Sewall Sanborn, Esquire, Member for the County of Compton; Joseph Curran Morrison, Esquire, Member for the Town of Niagara; John Langton, Esquire, Member for the County of Peterborough; and Antoine Aimé Dorion, Esquire, Member for the City of Montreal, to be Members of the General Committee of Elections for the Present Session.

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Given under my hand, this nineteenth day of September, 1854,

L.V. Sicotte,  
Speaker, Legislative Assembly.

Ordered, That the said Warrant be printed.

Pursuant to the 45th Section of "The Election Petitions Act of 1851," the Clerk read over an Alphabetical List of the Names of all the Members of the House.

The following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Scatcherd,--The Petition of the Municipal Council of the County of Middlesex.

By Mr. Crawford,--The Petition of William Winder, Esquire, Librarian to this House.

By Mr. Somerville,--The Petition of the Huntingdon and Lake St. Francis Road Company.

By Mr. Dostaler,--The Petition of Leopold Desrosiers and others, of Berthier, in the District of Montreal.

By Mr. McCann,--The Petition of Woodland Division, No. 168, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; the Petition of T. Kearnes, Esquire, and others, of the Township of North Plantagenet, County of Prescott; and the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of North Plantagenet.

By Mr. Larwill,--The Petition of the Municipality of the Township of McNab.

By the Honorable Mr. Young,--The Petition of the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal; and the Petition of the Committee of the British and Canadian School Society of Montreal.

By Mr. Alleyn,--The Petition of the Ladies Committee of the Quebec Infant School; and the Petition of Joseph Morrin, Esquire, and others, Shareholders in the Quebec Building Society.

By Mr. Aikins,--The Petition of T. Henry, Esquire, and others, of the Townships of Albion and Chinguacousy; and the Petition of Thomas Neelands and others, of the Townships of Albion and Chinguacousy.

By Mr. Jobin,--The Petition of the Reverend L.T. Brassard and others, School Commissioners of the Parish of St. Paul.

By Mr. Langton,--The Petition of Warsaw Division, No. 201, and the Petition of Oakdale Division, No. 271, both of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Otonabee; and the Petition of the Municipality of North Monaghan.

By Mr. DeLong,--The Petition of Kitley Division, No. 68; Mallory Town Division, No. 10; and Coleman's Corners Division, No. 5, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

By Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion,--The Petition of the Members and Trustees of Zion Church, in the City of Montreal.

By the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond,--The Petition of F.A. Cutter, Esquire, and others, Physicians and Surgeons, of Missisquoi and Shefford; the Petition of the Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly Railroad Company; and the Petition of the Kingsey Slate Works Company.

By Mr. Cartier,--The Petition of the Corporation of the Seminary of St. Hyacinthe; and the Petition of William B. Brehaut, Joint Clerk of the Peace for the District of Montreal.

On motion of Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion, seconded by Mr. Charles Daoust, Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this

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present Parliament for the County of Bagot, in the room of Timothée Brodeur, Esquire, whose Election was declared void.

On motion of Mr. DeWitt, seconded by Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion,

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that he will cause the proper Officer to lay before this House, the authority by which the Emigrant Sheds at Point St. Charles, in Montreal, were sold, the name of the purchaser or purchasers, the amount of the proceeds, the time when and to whom paid.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.

Ordered, That Mr. Felton have leave to bring in a Bill to prevent the traffic in alcoholic and intoxicating Liquors.

MR. FELTON ... explained that it was a copy of the one introduced by Mr. Malcolm Cameron in the last Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

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He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday the tenth day of October next.

On motion of the Honorable Mr. Morin, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chabot,

Resolved, That the time fixed by the Rules of this House for receiving Petitions for Private or Local Bills be extended to the tenth day of October; for receiving Private or Local Bills to the twenty-third of October, and for receiving Reports of Standing or Special Committees on such Private or Local Bills to the sixth of November next.

The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate upon the Question which was on Wednesday last proposed, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his Speech pronounced from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:

That we thank His Excellency for the satisfaction expressed by him at meeting the Legislature, and that we believe, with His Excellency, that the increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has hitherto existed for the due Representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province:

To assure His Excellency that we will give our best consideration to the subjects

of great magnitude and importance which will necessarily come under our consideration during the Session which is now commencing:

That we, in view of the two Acts which the Imperial Parliament, advancing with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed, feel the grave responsibilities thereby imposed on the Canadian Legislature:

That as to the one of these Acts which empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council, although the substitution of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown in the appointment of Members of that body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience, as Parliamentary Government and Ministerial Responsibility in the British sense of the term are for the most part unknown to the Constitution of Countries where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers, we think that in order to give to that important Branch of the Legislature the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some change in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required; and we trust that the difficulties to

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which His Excellency has referred will be surmounted by our endeavours, and by the patriotism of the Members of that Honorable Body:

That the other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province, we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able, without difficulty, to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction:

That the condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interest both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada, having to look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighbouring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals:

That we will consider the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions of Lower Canada, in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which since its introduction has contributed so materially to the prosperity of Upper Canada; and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. The other subjects of importance upon which measures may be submitted for our deliberation, will be also attentively considered:

That the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, when laid before us, will receive our best attention, and that His Excellency may rely on our readiness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service:

That our attention will be called to the prosperous condition of the Revenue as affording an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise



the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect Raw Materials employed in Ship-building and other branches of manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others, to which Articles entering largely into the consumption of the People are now subject:

That we will be glad to receive Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's Subjects in British North America on the one hand, and the Citizens of the United States on the other, and we will consider the propriety of amending the Act passed in eighteen hundred and forty-nine, for the free admission into Canada of certain Articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty:

That we learn with satisfaction that the Government and Congress of the United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and that we are disposed to meet them by a corresponding spirit:

That it is our hope that the removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada into the markets of the United States, will have a tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province;

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And the Question being again proposed;--The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.<sup>2</sup>

MR. BOWES held that the reformers ought not to blame the present alliance as by their own act they had brought it about.<sup>3</sup> [He] explained his position in regard to the Clergy Reserves. His opinions on that subject remained unchanged by the alterations that had taken place in the position of parties in this House. He was decidedly opposed to secularization, or to the alienation of any of the Church property of either Upper or Lower Canada [f]rom the purposes of religion. He could safely affirm that a majority of the Conservative constituencies of Upper Canada entertained the same view. He thought that the Conservative party ought to adhere to the principle for which they had contended for 20 years of dividing the Reserves among the different denominations in proportion to their numbers, notwithstanding that that principle had been abandoned by the leaders of the party. He did not believe that the opinion of the country had been unequivocally expressed upon this question at the late election. The late ministry were defeated in the last House, not upon the question whether the Clergy Reserves should be secularized, but upon the question whether that House which had decided by a two-third vote that it did not properly represent the country, was competent to deal with the question. He was satisfied that, if the question was submitted to the country under the extended franchise law, a majority of the people of Upper Canada, at all events, would be found to be in favor of dividing the Reserves among all the religious denominations according to their numbers.<sup>4</sup> He went over the census of the different classes of those opposed to secularization<sup>5</sup>. The question of secularization or no secularization should be submitted to the country distinctly, unmixed with all questions of the popularity or unpopularity of candidates for election. If the question were so submitted to the people of Upper Canada he would acquiesce in their decision whatever it might be.<sup>6</sup>

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*Ordered*, That the Question be put upon each paragraph of the said Motion. And the first four paragraphs being again read, were agreed to.

The 5th resolution--the one in relation to the Elective Legislative Council was then read.<sup>7</sup>

MR. GAMBLE would vote with the greatest pleasure for that resolution. Recent political changes had placed him in a somewhat peculiar position, but he had the utmost reliance in the honesty and integrity of those gentlemen of the Conservative party who had joined the administration. He could not sympathise with the charges made against these gentlemen of having abandoned their principles for the sake of office and patronage. He thought it ungenerous and uncharitable to put that construction on their conduct. Those who made such charges were probably themselves disappointed in their aspirations for power. He was disposed to give the new administration a fair trial, and to extend to them an independent support, reserving to himself, however, the right to vote for or against their measures according to the opinion he might form of those measures.<sup>8</sup> He did not agree with the secularization of the Reserves, nor with the position that the coalitionists had assumed towards this question.<sup>9</sup> Unquestionably he should not vote for any measure intended as a vote of censure upon them.<sup>10</sup> He agreed with the paragraph of the address just read. He desired to see the Legislative Council made elective; and he also desired further extension of the elective principle. He believed the present system of Government could not stand with the elective chambers, and for that reason he desired to have the second chamber made elective. The present system was prolific of corruption, and it appeared to him to be an utter absurdity to try to make in a country like this a transcript of the British constitution. They might just as well try to transplant an old gnarled English oak, one that had grown for ages. The system in England worked well enough, but it had taken a long time to arrive at its present position. In England there were really three estates--Queen, Lords and Commons. In the course of ages these three had gradually grown into their present position. Each of these had predominated at different periods of history, and even seriously threatened each others existence. He did not think that under the transcript of that system which was attempted in Canada that corruption could ever be done away with. He did not see why a Canadian could not represent her Majesty in Canada, as a person sent into this country from England. Why not? Could not men be found in this country as worthy as in any other? Was it not recently stated in the British House of Commons in the debate on the Lawley case that first rate men could not be procured to go out to the colonies; and that it was with difficulty suitable men could be procured at all to take the office of colonial Government. If first rate men could not be got at home why not get them in the colonies? We shall come to it in time--it is only a question of time. He wanted to have the question discussed in the country, and he felt certain that it would commend itself to the good sense of the people. The resolution before the House was the insertion of the feather end of the wedge.<sup>11</sup> He denied that these were democratic reforms.<sup>12</sup> He desired the change not in the interest of democracy, but to make democracy check democracy--under the name of a monarchy our present system was too democratic for him--the whole power was now really centred in that House, and he desired to put a check on that. He desired to see the second chamber an independent body holding its existence direct from the people, and an effective check on that House. The Governor, he desired to have elected by the people and possessed of substantial powers, who should come down with a speech at the beginning of the session that should mean some thing, and indicate in a plain, not a non-committal manner, measures on which legislation was needed. With reference to the Clergy Reserves, he stated that he did not believe they would

be secularized, if his church (the church of England) were properly represented in that House. The members of that church did not want secularization. The Act of 1840 was considered final; and he regretted that anything had been done to disturb the settlement made by it. In 1852 and 1853, he had settled in his place in that House that if the question were submitted to a distinct and direct vote of the people of the whole country, upon its own merits alone, that he would abide the decision, what ever it was. He felt certain however that that decision would not be in favor of secularization. It was in vain that he might be told that the country was represented in the House on the question of the Clergy Reserves--he knew it was not truly represented--the question had been mixed up with too many issues, personal and other. Coming to the seigniorial tenure he condemned the course which he alleged the late Government on that question had taken and stated that he had no doubt the counties of York and Peel would settle it in a week. They would respect rights of property and if the payments were too great to be made immediately they would arrange that they should be made in 10 or 20 years as the case might be. He objected to the province being called upon to pay any indemnity. With respect to the municipal extension referred to in the address, he should like to see the municipalities extended in Lower Canada, but he doubted the wisdom of trying to make an assimilation (sic) with the Upper Canada system, for he believed with Allison, it was the men that made the institutions, not the institutions that made the men. After some further general remarks<sup>13</sup>, he declared his intention to vote for the address as it stood, including the paragraph in relation to the Clergy Reserves, because he considered that the term "adjustment" covered the ground he occupied, and did not necessarily mean secularization.<sup>14</sup>

MR. MURNEY referred to a remark made by the last speaker to the effect that those Conservatives who opposed the administration must be actuated by personal and ambitious motives, or stung by disappointment. He (Mr. M.) was the only conservative who was prepared to oppose the administration through thick and thin, and he desired to know if the hon. member intended to allude to him.<sup>15</sup>

MR. GAMBLE disclaimed any intention of referring to the gentleman.<sup>16</sup>

MR. MURNEY was glad of it. He (Mr. M.) had nothing to expect personally, politically, pecuniarily, or otherwise. Thank God! he was above it all. His only ambition was to serve those who sent him here faithfully and honestly. He could not pretend, like some gentlemen who preceded him, to support the administration, when he was opposed to the three great measures on which they accepted office, and when as yet he knew nothing of the other measures they intended to introduce. Any man who could get up and make such a declaration was no statesman, no politician, and he would not give a snap of the fingers for his integrity. (Cheers.) He referred to the question of the Clergy Reserves. He had been taught something about the words "sacrilege" and "spoliation" in reference to that question. He had been taught this for 20 years. But now gentlemen of great responsibility and high intelligence, after three hours' deliberation, came down and told the House that what was "sacrilege" the other day meant nothing now, and that what had meant "spoliation" for 20 years meant nothing now! Politics, language--all changed after three short hours' deliberation, and the interests of the people and the interests of the church were all to be sacrificed. He for one did not understand that style of thing.<sup>17</sup> He would call attention to the monstrosity of members supporting the present great measures upon which those members accepted office.



Could he (Mr. Murney) sustain such inconsistency? No he would not.<sup>18</sup> Honorable members on the ministerial benches were offended with him for not giving them the support they had expected. He had opposed those gentlemen ever since the union, and he would like to know what had since occurred that should induce him to support them now? The leaders he had followed for many years told him only the other day that the gentlemen opposite were the most corrupt people under the sun. (Hear, hear.) He believed it because his leaders were men of character, and would not say what they did not believe to be true. The present Attorney General West (Mr. McDonald) was almost as vehement on the subject as he (Mr. M.) was the other day. He almost jumped out of his skin. (Laughter.) That gentleman accused the honorable gentlemen opposite of jobs and corruption; he even went further and used the most extraordinary language. He (Mr. M.) believed him. Did the gentleman believe himself now? (Hear, hear.) If he did, how could he sit on the treasury benches? He (Mr. M.) could not sustain such inconsistency.<sup>19</sup> Leaders whom he had followed for many years had told him the other day ... that patronage had caused the desertion which had taken place by honorable members. They had yielded for that consideration and had pandered to those to whom they were previously opposed. For his part he should lose all self esteem were he to abandon principle. It was painful to all the sons of the church to desert her for mere outside reasons.<sup>20</sup> He would tell the honorable gentlemen opposite in what he believed they were wrong. If the late honorable Inspector General was a corrupt person, he had been a corrupt person for some time past, and he could not have been corrupt without their knowledge. If he was corrupt, they were equally so. (Hear, hear.) Why then should the Inspector General be discarded, unheard, and without trial, whilst they retained office? He could not sustain such a proceeding. He could not sustain those gentlemen who had deserted the Conservative party for the further reason that the opposition had granted nothing; but that the Conservatives had yielded all the cherished principles of former years. He for one was not prepared to give up all the great principles for which the Conservative party had been contending for the last 20 years, merely in order that he might see those leaders whom he had been perhaps blindly, but conscientiously following, on the treasury benches. It seemed to him that it was a mere question of office and patronage. (Hear, hear.) Mr. M. concluded by declaring that he would vote against the pending resolution, and against the whole address.<sup>21</sup>

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*The fifth paragraph being again read, and the Question put thereon; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follows:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Aikins, Alleyn, Biggar, Blanchet, Bourassa, Bureau, Burton, Cartier, Casault, Cauchon, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Chisholm, Church, Clarke, Cooke, Crawford, Crysler, Daly, Charles Daoust, Jean B. Daoust, Darche, Delong, Desaulniers, DeWitt, Dionne, Jean B.E. Dorion, Dostaler, Attorney General Drummond, Dufresne, Egan, Felton, Ferres, Ferrie, Foley, Fortier, Fournier, Frazer, Gamble, Gill, Gould, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Huot, Jackson, Jobin, Labelle, Laberge, Langton, Laporte, Larwill, Lemieux, Loranger, Lumsden, John S. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, McCann, Marchildon, Masson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, Niles, O'Farrell, Papin, Patrick, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Prévost, Rankin, Rhodes, Roblin, Rolph, Solicitor General Ross, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Stevenson, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Valois, Whitney, Wright, and Young.--(94.)*

NAYS.

Messieurs Bowes, Brown, Cameron, Murney, Robinson, and Yeilding.--(6.)  
So it was resolved in the Affirmative.

The sixth paragraph being again read, as followeth: That the other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province, we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able, without difficulty, to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction.

Mr. Hartman moved in amendment thereto, seconded by Mr. Sanborn, That the words "consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner" be left out, and the words "will with a view to promote the interest of religion and social harmony without further delay

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give our best attention to the maturing of a measure for the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, by which the opinions of the People of the Province, as expressed at the late Election in no equivocal manner, will be carried into effect, and this fertile source of discord and agitation will be for ever removed" inserted instead thereof;

And a Debate arising thereupon;

MR. HARTMAN could not help feeling some indignation when he saw gentlemen who had been sent here to represent reform constituencies,<sup>22</sup> pledged to carry through certain principles of progressive and liberal policy,<sup>23</sup> and to oppose every thing that savored of retrogression or toryism, ranging themselves under the lead of the very head and front of "fossil toryism." (Hear, hear.) He condemned the use of the word "adjustment" in the address, in reference to the Clergy Reserve question, as being too ambiguous and designed to catch as many votes as possible. He thought that, in view of the recent changes, the House should have a distinct and definite pledge, as to the kind of treatment the question was to receive and should distinctly and emphatically declare itself in favor of secularization.<sup>24</sup> But he looks upon the members composing the new ministry as automations sitting to take up that which was put into the mouth of His Excellency. He hoped however that the House would pledge itself to carry out the principles of secularization. Upon the whole he hoped that the Resolution under consideration would not pass, and he would propose as an amendment to insert the word "secularization" instead of "adjustment" in the address.<sup>25</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN, believed that when he unequivocally stated that it was intended to secularize the Reserves, that assurance (sic) would be satisfactory. It was not necessary to express in words the course in every respect, which the ministry intends to take. It had been somewhat an error in this House in former times to put new matters into the Speech, and to have a discussion on all the measures of the session set forth in the Speech. Although

it was the intention of the Government to secularize the Clergy Reserves, at the same time he did not think that they ought to try to introduce for the Governor General new language. He believed that the amendment under consideration was<sup>26</sup> inexpedient and unnecessary<sup>27</sup>, and should not be adopted. Honble. members then in the House perhaps thought, that in voting against the amendment, they voted against the secularization of the Clergy Reserves. No such thing.<sup>28</sup> Those who would place any confidence in the repeated declarations of the government must believe that it was their intention to secularize the Reserves. He again repeated that such was the intention of the administration.<sup>29</sup>

MR. J. SMITH (Victoria) was sorry to see the part taken by the hon. member for North York.<sup>30</sup> He would vote against the amendment as he had voted against a similar amendment offered by the same gentleman in the last Parliament, although he was as warmly in favor of immediate secularization as that gentleman or any other. He gave a history of the legislation of the last five years in reference to this question, expressed his confidence in the sincerity of the late ministry in regard to it and his belief that the course they had pursued was the wisest and best. The amendment proceeded from gentlemen who came here determined to embarrass the government and perhaps they had succeeded beyond their wishes. It would be a lesson to them in future not to tear down an administration unless they were sure they could get a better one in its place. He, for one, had not relinquished one jot or tittle of his political principles, but if the administration of to-day were prepared to carry out the measures of the late administration, which he came here to support, he would not vote against them. He did not see how gentlemen opposite could pursue a different course unless indeed they were prepared to adopt the principle of "men, not measures." The honourable member for Lambton, (Mr. Brown,) ought certainly not to complain of the combination, for he had all along contended in his Globe that any administration would be better than the last.<sup>31</sup>

MR. BROWN; Hear, hear.<sup>32</sup>

MR. J. SMITH [continued:] He must, therefore, have gained something. He hoped that honourable gentleman would give the government a fair trial, judge them by their measures and not condemn them because they had once been on the opposite side to him. For the sake of procuring the passage of those great measures which the country demanded, he thought they should all refrain from offering factious opposition to the government. If, when the measures of the administration came in, they did not come up to his expectations or to what he believed the late government intended, he would at once walk across the House. (Hear, hear).<sup>33</sup> Several gentlemen had alluded to him during the discussion which had taken place, and it had been said that he desired to get in a new administration for the purpose of getting into office in common with other gentlemen. That was false. It was a matter, on the contrary, of notoriety, before the formation of this Cabinet, that the new administration was ready cut and dried, and it was well known among hon. gentlemen at the time who were to fill the new offices, and the country would hold them responsible for what they did. As far as the late Postmaster General was concerned, he had published an address to the Reformers of Upper Canada stating that he was not going to enter the political arena again, but was going to retire to mind his affairs (hear, hear.) Several hon. gentlemen were absent, having gone back to their constituents.<sup>34</sup>

A MEMBER.--The hon. member for Renfrew has gone.<sup>35</sup>



MR. J. SMITH.--Yes, he had no doubt they were all trying to go up, but some would unquestionably go down (laughter.) There was no doubt of it.<sup>36</sup> This was not the only combination cabinet that had been formed or proposed. The honourable member for Lambton at one time during the recent crisis, exhibited a list of a new ministry to members of the House. (Hear, hear.) The honourable member for Glengarry, (Mr. Macdonald,) was to be Attorney General West, (Hear, hear,) the honourable member for North York, (Mr. Hartman,) was to be Commissioner of Crown Lands, (Hear, hear,) the honourable member for Wentworth, (Mr. Freeman,) was to be Solicitor General West.<sup>37</sup>

MR. BROWN interrupting, denied that he had ever exhibited such a list. The gentleman had been misinformed.<sup>38</sup>

MR. J. SMITH had been informed from reliable sources that the hon. member, in discussing the question of who was to succeed the late administration, took up a list and pointed to the names of those gentlemen which had black marks opposite them--intimating that they were to be in the proposed coalition. (Ironical cries of Hear, hear.)<sup>39</sup>

MR. HARTMAN declared that he had never heard his name mentioned in any such connection.<sup>40</sup>

MR. J. SMITH replied that at all events it was a matter of public notoriety at the time, that such an administration had been planned, and it was whispered all over town who were to fill the different offices.<sup>41</sup> Upon the whole, he would sustain the address and vote in favor of everything which he could consistently with the principles which he had always advocated, and should do all in his power to get all those great measures alluded to in the Speech upon the table and passed into law. He wished, therefore, that the amendment would be regarded in the light in which it had been put by the hon. Commissioner for Crown Lands.<sup>42</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE, in a humorous speech, condemned the ambiguity of the language of the address<sup>43</sup>. It was, he said, clear beyond doubt that those who voted for the amendment voted against the policy of the government as declared by its members. But why could not the latter hon. gentlemen have told the House candidly what change it was intended that the present ministry should agree to. Why did not gentlemen on the other side who had formed this extraordinary compact, and deserted those principles which they had advocated before for so long a time, come forth and explain what they meant by the word "adjustment." Were the Reserves to be given in part to school laborers. If they were to throw upon the people all over the country the benefit of municipal institutions, and the control of their own affairs, which they never had before, they must have education given to them. Legislation proceeded too fast for the people in their present condition. Now he would ask any man in his proper senses, could there be any better means of enhancing the comfort and condition of the people than to give them these Reserves for the purpose of bestowing upon them education, intelligence, and moral honesty?--Whatever the principles of their fathers and mothers might have been, he would say, give to them that moral honesty, so as to make this country ... grow more and more powerful, which it could not if this boon was not thrown upon the people. He recollected a time when, on the occasion of a petition being sent over to England from Canada, on a very important subject, that out of 80,000 signatures to it, 60,000 were in crosses. This circumstance alone went to prove the necessity for doing everything to improve the educational system. But was it not clear, that when the House of

Assembly attempted to give the money of the country to education, that members were ridiculously inconsistent in jumping up and declaring in the face of the most convincing evidence to the contrary, that no change in the present affairs was required; and the best of it was, that such hon. members represented themselves to be Reformers. He hated the idea of voting against separate schools, if they were to be a part of the present system; alluded to the American common school system, and wished that it were the same in Canada. Now this ministry was a poor and wretched one. Hon. members had deserted their colours yesterday, and could not tell what their principles were to-day. Upon the whole, he was in favor of the amendment.<sup>44</sup>

MR. GOULD had come to Quebec to support any administration that would carry out the principle of secularization. He was elected upon that as a test question and was pledged to support any administration that would carry out<sup>45</sup> a measure for the complete secularization of the Clergy Reserves; but when he came down to Quebec, he found a ministry in power who seemed to be pledged to carry this out. He was like some other members, determined to support them for that reason; and although he saw there would be a strong opposition, he felt satisfied in the ground he took.<sup>46</sup> He expressed his belief in the sincerity of the late administration in their intentions with regard to that measure. Much as the late Inspector General had been denounced, he (Mr. G.) believed that that gentleman's administration had brought the question into its present shape when we have power to settle and had done all they could to carry the measure although perhaps they had not done it as fast as they might have done.<sup>47</sup> He could not help the result, but he was not one who could not enter into the organization which was about being carried out for the purpose of upsetting the ministry, and he believed that it was easier to crush than to organize a cabinet. He was of opinion that the constitution of these new elements had been a failure. The Inspector General had not failed in his object, but had merely let go of the Reformers, who were those who had really failed (hear, hear.)<sup>48</sup> He should vote against the amendment as they had been solemnly assured by the Commissioner of Crown Lands that it was the intention of the government to introduce a measure for the entire secularization of the Reserves, (hear, hear,) and the amendment was merely designed to embarrass the government.<sup>49</sup> He believed that the late administration were determined also to carry out this measure, but that now the present would do it, for the reason that they could not help themselves (hear, hear.) The Inspector General would not have resigned, had his party remained faithful, and that hon. gentleman had been a little too sympathetic in taking his action.<sup>50</sup> He thought the late Inspector General had been rather precipitate in resigning office. He believed from what he knew of the feeling in the House that that gentleman's ministry would not have been defeated on the address, (Hear, hear,) and that the "malcontents," who were engaged in forming new combinations, would soon have found out how they stood and returned into harness. He believed that the late Inspector General was honest and sincere in his determination to carry out measures for the secularization of the Reserves, the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure and in relation to the Legislative Council, and that if his friends had allowed him to carry those great measures through the House, he would then have consented to some arrangement that would have been more satisfactory to the Reformers generally than the present coalition. He repudiated the idea that any fair comparison could be made between Sir R. Peel and Sir Allan McNab. The hon. and gallant Knight might with far more propriety be compared to Benedict Arnold or General Hull for he had sold himself and deserted the principles for which he had been contending for 30 years for the sake

of a seat on the Treasury benches. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by declaring his intention to vote in favor of all the good measures that might be introduced into the House and against all the bad ones.<sup>51</sup> All these good measures ... would meet with the hearty response of the house.<sup>52</sup>

MR. COM. PUB. WORKS CHABOT then spoke in French. His remarks went to defend the course taken by the ministry, and to repel the attacks made upon it by the opposition. They were perfectly sincere, he held, in all they had done.<sup>53</sup>

MESSRS. POULIOT and MARCHILDON, addressed the house in French.<sup>54</sup>

MR. BROWN followed, and spoke for upwards of two hours.<sup>55</sup> [He] began by introducing to the House a newspaper brought by the Grand Trunk Railway that day in eight hours from Montreal--a rail, he said, began and nearly carried out by native Canadians--which contained a telegraphic notice sent by the late Inspector General to the press of Upper Canada. Here the hon. member quoted the despatch in question, signed by Mr. Hicnks (sic), and denouncing the Brownists &c.; and he then mentioned the pamphlet lately put forth by the same gentleman in support of the ministry. It was a most remarkable thing that the main support of such a combination should be this hon. gentleman--a man than whom for seven years none had been so loudly condemned by gentlemen opposite. Yet this same gentleman was the first to tender these ministers a certificate of character for Upper and Lower Canada. Here he read a paragraph about the Brownists, &c.--To meet such attacks as these he should refer to the course of the late administration, in order to show why the House had turned out the late government, which had at its commencement a majority of 44, and yet in two short years they were down to dissolution, and were replaced by another ministry composed nearly of the same elements of destruction as the last. The hon. member then went back to the time of the union, and traced the course of the government from that time to 1850, when, he said, the first difficulty arose from its being perceived that Mr. Lafontaine would not as Messrs. Price and Hincks wished, make the Reserves a cabinet question. Mr. Lafontaine held that these funds having been once applied to religious purposes could not be again diverted from them. In the same session the school bill was brought before the House, & notwithstanding the opposition of Mr. Hincks, joined by Messrs. DeWitt and Drummond, there were parties chiefly Catholics, who obtained for the first time the insertion of a sectarian clause. The Inspector General yielded, and from these circumstances arose a complete division between the Upper and Lower sections of the party. In Upper Canada they believed in the complete separation of Church and State. They asked for no advantage for any man over others, and they held the word toleration to be hateful, as it expressed the concession of a right which belonged naturally to every man without concession. They, therefore, conceived that the state should impose upon no man the support of religious establishments, as was done by the Three Rivers Cathedral bill. It might be said that that bill did not interfere with the rights of Protestants; but he objected to being called on to impose the burden upon Catholics. If the Catholics desired to have these establishments and to pay for them, there was no necessity for the law, and if not there was no right anywhere to compel them. Could there be one conscience for Upper Canada and another for Lower Canada--one set of principles for the east and another for the west? They must get rid of this system, if they desired to advance to the state of prosperity which prevailed in the United States. He was charged with introducing religious discord into the Province; but he held that he was the truest friend of religious concord, for you must have first



purity and then peace. The first thing to obtain concord was to prevent the interference of government on one side or the other. He thought religion would stand on a much higher ground without such support. It was true the Upper Canadian liberals had always hoped for an increasing infusion of liberalism in the party from Lower Canada, and believed that spirit would increase; but in this they were disappointed, and the result was to withdraw a great deal of confidence from Robt. Baldwin's administration, which though nominally broken up on the question of the Court of Chancery, was really dissolved by the fact that Messrs. Price & Lafontaine had determined to withdraw. Mr. Hincks was then placed at the head of the government, and was supported by the clear grits--thorough democrats--who had long opposed him; but who were represented in the new administration by Messrs. Rolph and Cameron. He (Mr. B.) had gone at once into opposition, with several conservatives, forming two branches of opposition on different grounds; but agreeing in one thing, viz.: that men holding such adverse opinions as were represented in the ministry could not conscientiously agree in their advice to the Governor. How could they, when there was not a single question on which they were at one? The sure effect followed. Having no other support, they began a system of corruption. Being unable to gratify the public mind by advancing new projects on which they were unable to understand each other, they were forced to accept the other expedient, so that when a member threatened to leave them because the country was doing so they kept him straight by the exercise of patronage in that direction. Hence came the necessity for keeping up a large revenue in order to have the means of bribery in hand. This it was attempted to put a stop to, and several bills were introduced; but all were either stopped or altered. One introduced by the present Solicitor General (West) was so completely changed as to give it an effect directly the reverse of what was intended. It in fact enabled a member improperly returned to Parliament, and petitioned against, to stop all inquiry by accepting a place under government. Government too, had railway commissions, which placed every railway speculator, and every contractor at their feet, and they were themselves all directors in the Grand Trunk Railway. During all the time the balance of public monies in the Treasury was constantly increasing. On the 1st of July, 1850, there were £432,000 surplus; 1st Jany. '51, £520,000; 1st Jany. '52, £427,252; 1st Jany. '53, £720,000, and this year he believed nearly £1,000,000. All this money the Inspector General had in his hands to put it in or take it out where he pleased, and to obtain credit for himself from the banks where it was deposited. What was the result? He saw by the returns, that instead of £50,000 of interest on these immense deposits, the country had credit for only £10,000. So when the Inspector General talked about reducing the tariff, and alleged that his revenue would be cut down, it was stated by himself and others that instead of a reduction in revenue the proposed change in the tariff would produce an increase. And what had been the result? Why that the hon. gentleman had last year got £1,000,000 for customs alone, besides an immense increase on the territorial revenue. After alluding to the late defeat of the ministry in the last session and their preceding political movement, he put it to the House whether their idea of responsible government was in any manner satisfied by a session held once in three years. Then coming to the Seigniorial Tenure question, on which he claimed to have a deep interest, though not a Lower Canadian, he accused Mr. Drummond of adopting the popular view, and so beating, his leader, Mr. Lafontaine, at Toronto, and yet going on to this day without having fulfilled his pledges. He declared the bill of last session an utterly inconsistent one, since it first alleged the seigniors had robbed the censitai-

res, and then gave them an indemnity for the discontinuance of their power to do wrong. Besides, the bill did not abolish the system at all. As to the Clergy Reserves, he believed the ministers had never been sincere, or they would not have obstinately refused to do anything, even after the bill giving power to secularize had passed in England. He then went over the jobs imputed to Mr. Hincks, and coming to the last meeting of parliament condemned the course adopted at that period, and declared that there was no county where any candidate had been bold enough to declare himself favorable to the ministry, with the exception perhaps of Victoria and Lennox and Addington. That was a pretty condition for responsible government to be reduced to. What was the meaning of the term "adjustment," as used in the address, he was at a loss to know. Did it not look as if the whole thing had been arranged, and as if this speech had been made in anticipation of the crisis which had ensued? He would like to understand how any detriment could be done to the interests of the seigniors by the proposed course. He thought that the detriment would be done away with if it were looked at in any honest sense, but to say that as things at present remain, disadvantage would fall to the lot of the seigniors, he could not understand. (The honorable member then read from the speech and proceeded to comment upon it, and contended that the ministry wanted to juggle in respect to the seigniorial tenure bill as well as on the clergy reserves.) He then proceeded to say that were he a Lower Canadian he would have considered that the clause alone in the speech with regard to the feudal tenure, would have given him such strong doubts in regard to the intention of the administration upon this question, that he never would have given his vote upon it. As far, however, as his own views were concerned, he should not have thought that the combination between the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands and Sir Allan McNab was unnatural, if this union had taken place upon the principles which those parties had always maintained. But he had in truth expected that this union would take place for the past three years, for in the opening of the parliament of 1852 he took that ground and observed that the then existing combinations would tumble to pieces, and the result would be, that a Conservative Government would come in, and that matters would be placed upon a more sound footing than they had been before. This arrangement between the gallant knight for Hamilton and the honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands was all the handiwork of the Inspector General, although one honorable member had given up his views for those of the other, the understanding appearing to be that the cabinet was to be formed upon a reform basis. It then appeared to him (Mr. B.) that the whole ground was gone and that those gentlemen had given up their principles altogether. Had those gentlemen said that they, having fought for certain principles so long, would now give them up, who would have complained, but when it was found by parties who conversed with those gentlemen a few days before the formation of the ministry, that they were taking up principles which they had never before held, what would have been expected to be the result? For a year back he had known that it was Sir Allan McNab's opinion, that it would be better for his church that the reserves should be given up and secularised. He (Mr. Brown) had known that privately, but he had never expected that the honorable members for Huron, or for Frontenac, or for Kingston, would have also done the same thing. He (Mr. Brown) only supported conservatives at the late election, with the view of preventing ministerialists from getting in. The other question which astonished him more than the part taken upon the clergy reserves, was the bill for the election of the legislative council, and he was most certainly surprised at the conservatives supporting that measure. (The honorable member then read passages from the speech of Sir Allan McNab and the

conservative ministers to prove that they had formerly opposed the elective principle being applied to the legislative council.) He would next advert to representation by population, which those gentlemen voted for last session several times, and so they were opposed to the government the last session upon the seigniorial tenure. He, finally, could not understand men saying that they would support those who had sold their principles, nor could he understand men selling their principles for the sake of gaining office. It was a bad principle of political morals. (The speaker then read from a platform which Mr. Spence assented to recently before his constituents, in which he expressed himself in favor of representation by population, vote by ballot, abolition of the Court of Chancery and Non Sectarian Schools, and the Speaker would like to know if those were in accordance with the principles of the Government.) After alluding to the meeting of the late Inspector General's friends, at which Mr. Wilson was elected leader, Mr. Brown went on to say that the taunts which had been thrown out by members of the ministry came very ill from their side, taking into account the meeting at which Mr. Wilson was elected.<sup>56</sup>

MR. FOLEY stated, that the late Inspector General had [re]presented at that meeting, that Mr. Wilson was to be the leader, whether the party was in power or out.<sup>57</sup>

MR. BROWN.--The Inspector General should have told something more about that meeting at Sir Allan McNab['s], and informed the House, whether he had been offered office by Sir Allan. This new Ministry he would contend is entirely Mr. Hincks'. That gentleman told Sir Allan McNab what to do and he did it--to take two Upper Canadian members in, and he took them, and he did all this without consulting his party, or Mr. Wilson, whom he had caused to be elected leader. He could only say, that Mr. Wilson after all that had taken place was very well satisfied. (He then referred to the taunts of the opposition against the Ministry at the last breaking up of the House and concluded by asking, "what was that opposition now?")

He then read from Mr. McDonald['s], (of Kingston) Speech in June last, extracts accusing the government of corruption and immorality, and said, such was the language which that gentleman used against six of the gentlemen among whom he now sits. Must they not act together, impressed with the constant feeling even at that moment that the late Inspector General had the power in his hands over them? Undoubtedly. He firmly believed however, that the gentlemen who sat upon his right (the Rouges) were the natural allies of the Reformers of Upper Canada. (Hear! hear! hear!)--Now the whole of the conservatives except those four who took office were going to vote against the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, but the combination in the course of a short time would be enfeebled by the force of public opinion. Divisions must and would break out among them and the result would be that the whole trouble which had been taken in forming the combination, would go for nothing. The late Inspector General had announced the fact, that that combination was founded upon the principle of a double majority system.<sup>58</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND rose and denied it.<sup>59</sup>

MR. BROWN.--Was pleased to hear it denied, the effect of this combination was most injurious upon the public mind, and tended to destroy public confidence in statesmen. He was willing to admit that good might come through evil, (hear! hear!) they were passing a transition estate, and the result would be the formation of a strong reform party, and measures proceeding from the com-



bination would be thoroughly Conservative, and he believed earnestly, that the Reform party which would spring up, would be founded upon broad Constitutional principles, and be able to take the reins of power without those signs of wavering which had marked the late administration.

The honorable gentleman then condemned the proposed application for the elective principle, being given to the Legislative Council, and said that there was no need for it, that bill having never come back.<sup>60</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE ironically asked if the Seigniorial Tenure Bill had come back (laughter).<sup>61</sup>

MR. BROWN concluded his address by saying that if the Legislative Council were to be made elective, it would lead to a breaking up of the Constitution. He would rather that the Upper House be swept away.<sup>62</sup>

MR. RANKIN, after some remarks in reply to Mr. Brown, said that he was not an admirer of the combination, but believed it was at present necessary to carry on the public business and the settlement of the questions the country demanded.<sup>63</sup> [He] thought it was premature and useless to be attacking the government now. He would give them a fair trial. Let them bring in their measures, and if those measures were not good, he would be the first to turn them out.<sup>64</sup> He admitted that the position of the coalescing Conservatives was one that he would not like to occupy, and thought that if they had been actuated by a higher order of patriotism in resolving finally to abandon their objections to the Ministerial measures, they would not have waited until they could get into office, but would have supported the Inspector General and assisted him in passing them.... Mr. Rankin, however, gave these gentlemen credit for an honourable and consistent course during many years, and insisted that this very conduct, was the best guarantee for their present honest intentions.<sup>65</sup> He did not admire Sir Allan MacNab's position; but after having consented to make such a great sacrifice, he thought it absurd to question his sincerity. He desired to have the Clergy Reserves secularized. He desired further to have elective institutions introduced more generally<sup>66</sup>. He was in favor of an Elective Legislative Council, an Elective Governor, and elective institutions generally, and thought there was nothing in such reforms calculated to sever the connection between this country and Great Britain.<sup>67</sup> He thought the debate had been continued too long and should be brought to an end.<sup>68</sup> He then administered a very severe rebuke to the long-winded talkers, who, while they pretended to desire the settlement of the great questions before the country, threw all sorts of obstacles in the way of getting at them, and ... remarked, that as they professed to be favourable to these measures, and as they well knew they could not prevent the adoption of the answer to the Address, they should as honest men allow the letter (sic) to pass, and assist in securing the former; and that then it would be time enough to battle with the Administration.<sup>69</sup>

MR. CARTIER made a long speech.<sup>70</sup> [He] said that the greater part of those who had spoken of the combination had regarded it more as an Upper than a Lower Canada question. He would consider it as a Lower Canada question.<sup>71</sup> [Il] comença par rappeler que la coalition avait été la conséquence nécessaire de la désorganisation du parti réformiste du Haut-Canada. Lorsque le ministère libéral LaFontaine-Baldwin a été défait à Toronto, après plusieurs années d'existence et de travaux utiles, ce fut la faute du parti Haut-Canadien qui se sépara de la majorité Bas-Canadienne. L'hon. M. Hincks réorganisa le parti, par une nouvelle combinaison qui a poursuivi l'oeuvre des réformes avec succès et avantage pour le pays. Le 20 juin dernier, le ministère de M. Hincks fut

battu, mais encore par le Haut-Canada, la majorité du Bas-Canada étant restée fidèle à l'administration. La zizanie n'existait donc que dans le Haut-Canada. Le ministère en a appelé au peuple, et le vote sur la question de l'orateur a prouvé qu'il avait encore l'appui et la confiance du Bas-Canada. C'est donc encore le parti réformiste du Haut-Canada qui a fait défaut au Bas-Canada. Le Bas-Canada est encore uni, tellement qu'il n'est pas juste d'appliquer le mot coalition à la section Bas-Canadienne du ministère, puisqu'elle reste la même sans modification (sic) aucune. La coalition proprement dit n'a eu lieu que pour le Haut-Canada.<sup>72</sup> The liberal party of Lower Canada supported the same ministers that they did before. The Lower Canada section of the ministry was not affected by the vote of want of confidence in June last. That section of the ministry had then a majority of the reformers of Lower Canada, and it still had a majority in the House; and it never had been blamed by them. For these reasons he considered it wrong to call the ministry a coalition as far as Lower Canada was concerned; to call it so was to misapply the word. It was true that a coalition had taken place in the Upper Canada section of the ministry, and Mr. Morin had accepted that.<sup>73</sup> He candidly admitted that he was not, as a general rule, an advocate of coalition ministries. He was a strong party man, and would prefer to support an administration composed of his political friends--those in whose personal characters he had confidence as well as in their measures. He would like an administration that would meet the approval not only of his reason, but of his feelings.<sup>74</sup> Sans être ami des coalitions, il faut bien les admettre quand elles sont devenues nécessaires; et quand on voit en combien de partis différents la population du Haut-Canada est divisée, et quand on voit qu'aucun de ces partis ne commande une majorité dans la chambre, on doit convenir qu'une coalition était nécessaire, inévitable, dans cette section de la province, s'il est reconnu qu'on ne peut gouverner qu'avec une majorité. Cela admis, il ne restait plus qu'à faire choix des partis qui pouvaient se coaliser pour continuer l'oeuvre des réformes sages. Il était tout naturel de chercher les éléments d'une coalition dans les partis les plus modérés, et non pas dans les extrêmes, et on a trouvé ces éléments dans le parti conservateur, et dans le parti réformiste modéré.<sup>75</sup> He could not refuse to give his support to that coalition<sup>76</sup>, and would support it as well for the passage of measures as the promotion of the material interests of the country, which he believed the new ministry would do. He wished it to be distinctly understood that the support that he gave to the coalition section of the ministry, was not to men but to measures<sup>77</sup>, and only to those measures that his judgment approved.<sup>78</sup> He did not give the ministry his support as a political entity, but as a thing that had become necessary to carry measures. He regretted to see the split that had taken place in the reform ranks. Those reformers of Upper Canada that blame the coalition, might easily remedy it by giving up their differences.<sup>79</sup> Le représentant de South Waterloo, M. Foley, a cru pouvoir reprocher aux Bas-Canadiens d'avoir accepté l'alliance des conservateurs, et d'avoir trahi en cela leurs frères réformistes du Haut-Canada, mais a-t-il bien songé que ce sont eux qui nous ont fait défaut les premiers, que ce sont eux qui se sont séparés de nous et que ce serait à eux à réparer la faute? La coalition doit son existence à la division du Haut-Canada, et elle n'a été opérée que pour détruire les mauvais effets de cette division. Le représentant de Lambton lui-même, M. George Brown, a été obligé de rendre justice aux Bas-Canadiens, et de dire qu'ils étaient restés fidèles à leurs principes, en acceptant cette coalition. Nous étions en majorité en juin dernier, nous l'étions encore au commencement de la session, et par conséquent, aucune administration ne pouvait être formée sans nous. Les Bas-Canadiens étaient maîtres du terrain. Celui qui était prêt à donner son

appui à l'administration Hincks-Morin sur l'adresse qu'elle avait préparée en réponse aux (sic) discours du trône, ne peut pas, s'il est homme d'affaires voulant sincèrement le bien de son pays, refuser de donner son support à l'administration qui accepte la même adresse et se charge de faire passer les mesures qui y sont énumérées et recommandées. Cette coalition est une conquête importante en faveur du programme du parti réformiste, puisqu'elle détruit presque totalement l'opposition au bill de la tenure seigneuriale, au bill des réserves du clergé, au bill du conseil législatif.

L'opposition a reproché au gouvernement de n'avoir pas fait passer la mesure des réserves du clergé dans la dernière session. Cependant les messieurs qui font ce reproche ont toujours été des premiers à dire que la question ne devait pas être décidée par le Bas-Canada; c'était au peuple du Haut-Canada que cela appartenait de droit. Or, qu'on regarde les journaux de la chambre, et on verra quel support l'administration recevait du Haut-Canada durant le dernier parlement. C'était à peine s'il y avait une majorité. Quel crime y avait-il alors d'attendre une nouvelle expression de l'opinion publique dans cette section du pays?<sup>80</sup> He declared his belief that a measure for the secularization of the Clergy Reserves could not have passed the last parliament.<sup>81</sup>

MR. BROWN believed so too. What he blamed the government for, was for not trying. If they had been defeated on that question, the country would have been with them. (Hear, hear.)<sup>82</sup>

MR. CARTIER justified the hasty dissolution of the last parliament. He maintained that the assembly having declared its want of confidence in the ministry, the people was the proper authority to which to appeal, and that it was right to make that appeal at once.<sup>83</sup> Après le vote du 20 juin, l'administration fit bien d'en appeler au peuple puisqu'elle avait la majorité de la représentation de l'une des sections de la province. Aussi la majorité du ministère a augmenté dans le Bas-Canada, et la minorité ministérielle a diminué dans le Haut-Canada.<sup>84</sup> He considered that the late election had settled the question of the Clergy Reserves, and that there was no use in discussing that question further.<sup>85</sup> He had long believed that secularization must take place. He had not expressed the opinion before, but had waited for the proper time to do so. He justified the use of the word "adjustment" in the Governor's speech.<sup>86</sup>

MR. HARTMAN asked if the word were meant to catch every body.<sup>87</sup>

MR. CARTIER said he was not in the confidence of the government and could not tell the honorable member. He continued to say he had known many members of the Church of England in Montreal vote for<sup>88</sup> des candidats bien prononcés en faveur de la sécularisation des Réserves. A Montréal, M. Young a reçu le support de plusieurs membres de cette église. Cela ne voulait-il pas dire que ces messieurs étaient prêts à séculariser les réserves, acceptant dès lors le verdict du peuple, comme l'ont accepté les conservateurs qui font partie de la nouvelle coalition ministérielle. On pourrait donc dire que la question est décidée par le peuple, et qu'il ne reste plus à la chambre qu'à discuter les débats d'une mesure.<sup>89</sup> He enlarged on the railway legislation of the last parliament, and argued that the construction of the Grand Trunk Railroad would be the greatest blessing ever conferred on the country.<sup>90</sup>

MR. FERRES.--Are you not a paid agent of the company?<sup>91</sup>

MR. CARTIER.--No.<sup>92</sup>

MR. FERRES.--Do you not receive money from it?<sup>93</sup>



MR. CARTIER said that he was the solicitor of the company, but he had never yet received one farthing from it. He had however disbursed several hundred pounds on its account, and he expected to be paid. But he was not dependent on that, he was independent in his private practice; whether he deserved it or not he had received confidence as a lawyer in Montreal, and he was above any emolument he might receive from the Grand Trunk Railway.<sup>94</sup> Etre le solliciteur de la compagnie du grand tronc, en qualité d'avocat, n'ôte pas plus l'indépendance politique, qu'être le solliciteur de la Banque du Peuple, comme l'est le membre pour Montréal, M. Dorion. M. Cartier dit que des corps publics comme ceux-là sont des clients avantageux et qui payent bien; cependant, avant l'existence de cette compagnie, il avait l'avantage d'avoir une réputation professionnelle assez bien établie pour vivre sans ce secours. La compagnie ne l'a pas acheté, elle ne lui paye que le prix de ses services professionnels. C'est une injure de supposer qu'il est capable de cracrier (sic) ses opinions pour obtenir une pratique dont il n'a pas besoin pour vivre honorablement.<sup>95</sup> He had had the charge of the measures for bringing the Grand Trunk Railway system into existence, and he was more proud of that than any other act of his life. Even now, much of the late prosperity of the country was owing to the money disbursed by the Grand Trunk Railway. The company had now 16,000 men employed, and it had expended  $2\frac{1}{2}$  millions of pounds since July, 1853. Referring to the Quebec and Richmond road, he said Mr. Brown was entirely in error in supposing that it could have been completed in so short a time if the Grand Trunk had not taken it up. When the Grand Trunk took it up a very trifling sum of money had been spent on it,--and never before on the continent had a road of 96 miles in length been made in so short a time<sup>96</sup>. Après ces remarques générales, M. Cartier répondit plus spécialement au discours de M. A.A. Dorion, l'un des représentants de Montréal, qui avait semblé donner à son parti le mérite d'avoir favorisé les améliorations publiques. Ne se souvenait-il pas, ou s'il s'en souvenait, voulait-il faire oublier, que le chef de son parti, M. Papineau a dit que l'argent dépensé pour nos améliorations publiques était de l'argent gaspillé? N'a-t-il pas dit aussi que le canal Welland était une nuisance pour le pays et que sa destruction serait un bienfait pour le Canada? Est-ce un parti qui s'est formé à la suite d'un tel homme qui peut se vanter d'avoir favorisé le progrès des améliorations publiques? Les amis des améliorations publiques sont évidemment plus nombreux du côté ministériel que de l'autre côté. L'introduction des chemins de fer dans le Canada est particulièrement dûe à l'ex-inspecteur-général.

M. Cartier rappela aussi à M. Dorion l'opposition que M. Hincks a rencontrée de la part de son parti, (du parti de M. Dorion) lorsqu'il s'est agi de pourvoir au moyen de faire ouvrir des chemins de fer dans ce pays. Il lui rappela l'opposition que M. Young rencontra de la part de ce même parti, à Montréal en 1852, parce qu'il était en faveur du grand chemin de fer provincial, et qu'il se présentait comme collègue de M. Hincks.<sup>97</sup>

MR. A. DORION nia ce fait.<sup>98</sup>

MR. CARTIER lui rappela le bulletin électoral de son parti qui se servait de cette entreprise comme d'un épouvantail, et qui en faisait son cheval de bataille contre M. Young. Voilà comment le parti auquel appartient M. Dorion s'est montré ami des améliorations publiques.<sup>99</sup> Among other things [he] condemned Mr. A.A. Dorion's scheme of annual parliaments, alleging that in the United States public opinion was against the principle of having the legislature elected for very short periods.<sup>100</sup> Finally he expressed his intention

to leave the consideration and discussion of abstract political theories to the gentlemen of the Rouge party opposite, and to devote his whole time and energy to ... the promotion of the material progress of the Province.<sup>101</sup>

MR. A. DORION, de Montréal s'adresse à la Chambre. Il assure la Chambre de son respect pour l'hon. représentant de Verchères, comme un gentilhomme et un membre distingué du Barreau; cependant il croit nécessaire de répondre à quelques observations faites par ce monsieur. Cet honorable membre a dit qu'il n'y avait pas de coalition, quant au Bas-Canada, dans la constitution actuelle du cabinet. S'il n'y en a pas, comment se fait-il qu'il y a des membres du parti conservateur dans le Cabinet avec la dernière administration bas-canadienne?<sup>102</sup> Were they, then, to understand that there were two distinct and separate administrations?<sup>103</sup> He (Mr. D.) could not sanction such a principle. He should like to know if Messrs. McNab and Spence pretended to profess the same opinions? and if not, how the ministry could be supported on the plea of measures, not men?<sup>104</sup> The gentleman admitted that his personal feelings were not with the administration, and that he would support the measures and not the men. This was the position of all those who professed to support the ministry.<sup>105</sup> L'hon. Secrétaire-Provincial, la veille, avait avancé que l'opposition voulait renverser tous les gouvernements afin de n'en pas avoir du tout, et que c'était pour prévenir cela qu'il acceptait l'union actuelle.<sup>106</sup> He denied that the Rouge party were determined to oppose any government that might be formed, but they were opposed to a coalition government with a Tory element in it.<sup>107</sup> Il croit que lorsqu'une nouvelle élection aura lieu, il y aura des preuves suffisantes que c'est là aussi ce que veut le Haut et le Bas-Canada. Il ne veut pas d'un gouvernement tel que celui décrit dans un pamphlet écrit par l'hon. Secrétaire Provincial en 1847, dans lequel il dit:

"Partout le mal est tellement incontestable qu'il ne reste plus de prétexte pour calomnier ceux qui se déclarent mécontents. Il n'y a point de principes qui tiennent unis les hommes qui se sont emparés du pouvoir; il n'y a point de dénomination politique qui puisse s'appliquer à leurs partisans, il n'y a point d'épithète injurieuse qui puisse être adressée à la masse du pays qui les répudie. Il y a pour toute distinction d'une part une corruption sans exemple, de l'autre une honnête et universelle indignation."

Telle est la description faite alors du parti maintenant au pouvoir; l'hon. membre pour Huron occupant la même position que celle qu'il avait alors, avec deux autres membres du ministère actuel aussi dans le gouvernement, quoique le galant et savant chevalier ne fût pas là.

Le parti représenté alors comme n'ayant aucuns liens pour le réunir était le même que celui auquel le Secrétaire-Provincial vient de se joindre pour former l'administration. Mais pour les raisons qui lui faisait alors répudier ce parti, l'opposition le répudie maintenant[t]. Comment peut-elle le faire seulement parce que ces messieurs avaient traversé la Chambre et ajouté à la force du défunt ministère celle de quatre chefs, tous leurs partisans étant encore dans l'opposition sur les grandes questions du gouvernement, à l'exception de M. Gamble, qui occupait la même position vis-à-vis quelques unes d'elles avant que la coalition n'eut lieu.

Un appui comme celui qui serait obtenu de ces messieurs, n'est pas un appui de principes et par conséquent il ne peut comprendre comment l'administration pourrait se maintenir, à moins qu'ils n'en viennent enfin à supporter les principes des mesures, pendant qu'ils les détruiraient par les détails.<sup>108</sup> Mr. Dorion enlarged on the great evils that must arise from sanctioning the principle that men might give up measures to take office. In England that principle had always been condemned, and it could not be admitted, or there was an

end of all parties.<sup>109</sup> Pour montrer quelle a toujours été l'opinion des grands hommes d'Etat sur de telles combinaisons d'hommes qui traversent subitement la chambre pour y trouver le pouvoir, M. Dorion cite Fox, dans un discours qu'il faisait en 1782<sup>110</sup>, very strongly denouncing the principle as immoral.<sup>111</sup>

Telle était l'opinion d'un homme d'état qui avait traversé la Chambre du côté de l'opposition,--mais avec cette différence, qu'il apporta ses principes avec lui, au lieu de les laisser en arrière, et qu'il n'abandonna pas ses principes afin de parvenir au pouvoir.<sup>112</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND.--Et nous aussi!<sup>113</sup>

MR. A. DORION.--Et Sir Allan McNab aussi, je suppose! Je répète que le changement de principes d'aucun homme ne peut être digne de confiance, lorsque son seul motif apparent est le bénéfice qu'il en retire lui-même.<sup>114</sup> The coalition ... was the abnegation of all sound principles. In no country in the world could it be permitted that men should abandon their principles to take office; yet here we had seen Sir Allan MacNab and his confreres abandon in a few hours the principles that they had advocated all their lives.<sup>115</sup>

Quant à la doctrine des mesures et non les hommes, c'en est une que j'ai toujours professée, mais dans un sens bien différent de celui qu'on proclame aujourd'hui. On prend des hommes favorables à certaines mesures, et nous disons de supporter les mesures et non les hommes, c'est-à-dire que nous sommes indifférents quant à l'homme d'un parti entretenant sincèrement certaines opinions, qui met ces opinions en pratiques. Mais cette doctrine est bien différente de l'autre côté, on dit: supportez les mesures, de quelque part qu'elles viennent; ne faites pas attention que ceux qui les offrent sont sans principes. Pour montrer comment on regarde une telle doctrine en Angleterre, je vais dire ce que disait un des appuis de Peel, qui protestait contre la conduite de dix ou douze autres qui avaient traversé la Chambre pour faire une combinaison.

(M. Dorion lit un second extrait.)

Il semble que telle est l'idée des honorables membres vis-à-vis; mais les ministres doivent marcher, ou ils les abandonneront; mais j'ai toujours supposé que la base du gouvernement responsable était la confiance dans le ministère, et non la crainte de ceux qui les supportent de la part des ministres; mais il paraît maintenant que rien ne peut être fait à moins que les partisans du gouvernement aient un fouet pour le frapper et le faire marcher. Il doit être un peu dur d'être fouetté par son propre parti et d'être fouetté par l'opposition.

La dernière partie de l'extrait s'applique parfaitement à ce qui vient d'avoir lieu ici. Ces messieurs veulent donner aux ministres un fair trial, malgré qu'il y en ait, comme en Angleterre, beaucoup qui restent, en dépit des changements des vieux préjugés de parti. Aussi quelques membres s'opposent aux trois grandes mesures annoncées par la Couronne, et lorsque l'hon. membre pour Waterloo s'est levé pour proposer un bill pour l'extension du principe électif au gouvernement local, et lorsqu'il fut demandé au Procureur-général Est s'il sanctionnait son introduction, il dit qu'il n'aimait pas à l'opposer, mais qu'il devait attendre jusqu'à ce que les membres engagés dans leur réélection soient revenus.<sup>116</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND.--Je n'ai pas dit cela. J'ai refusé de m'opposer à la première lecture, comme je le fais pour tous les bills, et aussi, comme je le ferai pour tous les bills, j'ai demandé de remettre la seconde lecture jusqu'à l'arrivée de mes collègues en Chambre.<sup>117</sup>

MR. A. DORION.--Mais l'hon. membre n'a exprimé aucune de ses opinions pro-



pre[s] sur ce bill; parce que lui et ses collègues ne s'étaient accordés que sur trois grandes mesures et n'avaient pas convenu de mettre en pratique l'extension du principe électif tel que le pays le réclame. Et ici je dois dire que l'hon. Secrétaire Provincial semble estimer au dessous de leur valeur l'importance des institutions électives et des parlements annuels ou fréquents, et je crois aussi que l'hon. membre pour Verchères était dans l'erreur en disant que le peuple de New-York s'était prononcé contre le principe d'abrégier le tems pour lequel les législateurs sont élus. Au contraire, à New-York, la dernière tentative a été de réduire la durée de l'Assemblée Législative de deux à un an, et celle du Sénat de quatre à deux ou trois ans.

Il est aisé d'opposer quelques paragraphes des journaux aux actes publics du peuple à travers les Etats-Unis; mais pendant que l'hon. membre ne peut citer aucun exemple que le tems pour lequel les législateurs sont choisis ait été prolongé, je puis citer de nombreux et récents exemples où ce tems a été abrégé.

Quant à l'importance du changement, je dirai seulement au Secrétaire-provincial que s'il connaissait seulement l'immense patronage que lui et ses collègues exercent par les nominations locales, il verrait de suite combien leur influence serait diminuée par l'introduction du principe électif. Je désire les institutions électives, afin de pouvoir connaître l'opinion des électeurs sans que l'influence de l'exécutif ne la contrôle. Et afin d'échapper à la corruption exercée par quelques individus, mon parti désire avoir des parlements fréquents, parce que personne ne trouverait que cela vaudrait la peine de payer de larges sommes pour n'être élu que pour une année, tandis qu'à présent celui qui se fait élire a de grandes espérances d'obtenir quelque chose dans le cours des quatre années pour lesquelles il est élu.

Les honorables membres de l'autre côté de la Chambre ont exprimé un grand désir de connaître le chef de ce côté. Ça pouvait être une matière d'importance parmi les ministériels, où il paraît que le dernier Inspecteur-Général avait rassemblé son parti pour leur conseiller de choisir un chef--où un parti assez nombreux, s'était assemblé et avait consenti à ne faire aucunes combinaisons conservatrices--sous aucunes circonstances. Mais ils avaient enfin, au commandement de quelques-uns de leurs chefs--fait justement ce qu'ils avaient décidé de ne pas faire. Mais sur ce côté de la Chambre, c'était tout à fait sans importance, et il en était ainsi parce que les chefs de ce parti ont des principes communs qu'ils ont professés depuis longtemps; ils ont été formés et ils ont travaillé ensemble, chacun d'eux pourrait traverser la Chambre demain--et il n'apporterait pas un seul vote avec lui à moins que cette démarche ne soit basée sur les principes du parti.

Parmi ces principes l'hon. membre voulait savoir si nous comprenions la représentation basée sur la population. Nous avons demandé la représentation basée sur la population et si nous l'avions obtenue lorsque nous l'avons demandée nous nous soumettrions aujourd'hui à toutes ses conséquences.

Mais le Haut-Canada étant en majorité; je pense que la personne à qui l'on doit s'adresser pour obtenir des informations est l'hon. Secrétaire Provincial, qui déplorait la clause de l'acte impérial qui permet à la Législature Coloniale de changer son mode de représentation par une simple majorité; mais qui a déjà proposé une résolution affirmant le principe de la représentation basée sur la population<sup>118</sup>, and put his views in favor of it on the journals of the House at Toronto.<sup>119</sup> Je suppose que l'hon. membre s'accorde encore avec ses collègues du Haut-Canada qui, comme lui, désirent la représentation basée sur la population.

L'hon. membre pour Maskinongé s'est opposé aux institutions électives parce

qu'il soutient que le peuple n'a pas assez d'éducation (sic)--s'il en est ainsi je demande comment il se fait, que la loi autorisant l'établis[s]ement d'une école normale, n'a pas été mise à exécution; le manque d'éducation étant, jusqu'à un certain point au moins, la faute des hon. membres eux-mêmes, et du pas dont ils y vont il sera longtemps avant qu'il y ait aucune amélioration dans l'éducation.

On a dit encore que les institutions municipales ne fonctionnaient pas dans le Bas-Canada. Mais à qui cela est-il dû? si ce n'est aux hon. membres de l'autre côté dont la loi en exigeant une haute qualification pécuniaire empêche cette classe de jeunes hommes qui possèdent de l'éducation et des talents de prendre part dans le gouvernement municipal.

On nous a accusé d'être opposés aux améliorations, mais tous ceux avec lesquels j'agis sont fortement en faveur des améliorations; et quant à l'une d'elles, le Grand Tronc, quoique j'aie différé d'opinion avec plusieurs sur les meilleurs moyens de faire ces grands travaux, je désire parfaitement, ainsi que mon parti, de le voir pousser en avant. Dans l'établissant (sic) du chemin de fer de Portland, mes amis et moi nous avons eu une part, et l'opinion unanime à Montréal, supportée par toute la presse qui est censée représenter l'opinion publique, était en faveur de ce chemin. Il en est de même relativement au canal du St. Laurent au lac Champlain, dans lequel M. Young prend un si grand intérêt, et que j'ai demandé dans mon adresse à mes électeurs.

J'ai entendu ce soir faire des avancés sur un homme honorable pour lequel j'ai le plus grand respect, le ci-devant membre pour les Deux-Montagnes, et qui, a-t-on dit, avait approuvé l'ex-ministère. J'ai vu cet hon. monsieur depuis la dissolution, et quoique je ne me sois pas enquis du fait, je n'en ai rien entendu dire, quoique je crois être dans une meilleure position pour le savoir que les hon. membres de l'autre côté de la Chambre, qui ont toujours opposé ce monsieur, ne pourraient l'être. L'hon. membre pour Verchères a aussi parlé de ce monsieur comme étant un homme très peu important, et cependant il a été déclaré par tous les organes de l'ex-ministère comme étant la personne la plus propre à occuper le fauteuil.--S'il était aussi peu important que l'hon. membre le dit, pourquoi a-t-il circulé que le ministère était prêt à en faire son candidat? ce n'était certainement pas un sentiment d'amitié personnelle qui le faisait agir ainsi, c'était donc probablement le même sentiment qui les animait à mettre de leur parti mon hon. collègue (M. Holton).

L'hon. membre pour Verchères a aussi essayé de prouver quelque chose en disant que plusieurs membres de l'Eglise d'Angleterre avaient voté pour le Commissaire des travaux publics. Je crois que les membres de cette église dans le Bas-Canada ne sont pas partisans aussi zélés de ces réserves que le sont ceux du Haut-Canada; mais peut-être que quelques-uns d'entre eux ont voté pour l'hon. Commissaire des Terres pour les mêmes raisons, quelles qu'elles soient, qui induisirent l'hon. membre, qui est maintenant en faveur de la sécularisation, à voter à Montréal précisément pour les candidats qui se sont déclarés en faveur de la continuation des Réserves telles qu'elles sont.

Le fait est que les Haut-Canadiens amis des ministres les abandonneront sur cette question--et il est probable que quelques-uns de leurs amis du Bas-Canada en feront autant, et ils seront alors dans cette position qu'il leur faudra chercher appui du côté opposé de la Chambre pour faire adopter leurs propres mesures. Est-ce là le gouvernement responsable? L'opposition avait été accusée d'être incapable de former une administration, et l'on admet tout à la fois que le Secrétaire-Provincial était correct lorsqu'il disait que ses amis n'avaient aucun désir d'entrer dans l'administration, et qu'ils n'avaient

ni l'intention ni l'idée de le faire. Mais n'aurait-on pas pu former une administration plus libérale? Est-ce que le ci-devant orateur n'avait pas plus la confiance de la Chambre en général, que ces membres qui ont été pris du Haut-Canada, pour former cette partie du gouvernement? Mais non! Il valait mieux pour le M. qui devait abandonner les Banquettes ministérielles, comme il voulait le faire seulement pour un temps limité, de s'arranger de manière à se faire un chemin facile pour remonter au pouvoir, lorsqu'il le désirerait.

C'est pour cette raison que l'on voit maintenant ce qu'on n'avait jamais vu auparavant, une très petite minorité appelée pour former un gouvernement.

Je dois faire allusion à un autre fait--moi et mon collègue avons été élus à condition de refuser notre confiance à l'administration, non absolument parce qu'elle avait fait des jobs, et avait joué pour son propre bénéfice aux dépens des fonds publics, mais parce qu'elle a déclaré publiquement que les ministres de la Couronne pouvaient tout aussi bien que n'importe qui spéculer sur les fonds publics.<sup>120</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND denied that the ministry had ever asserted any such principle.<sup>121</sup>

MR. A. DORION.--J'en viendrai à cela bientôt. En même tems je soutiens que l'ex-premier ministre<sup>122</sup> the head of that ministry had declared repeatedly, without being contradicted by any of his colleagues, that a minister of the Crown had a right to speculate in the public funds, and other property, and had admitted that he had himself so speculated. The people of the city of Montreal, and of the District of Montreal generally, repudiated that doctrine as immoral, and dangerous to the public interests.<sup>123</sup> Ils soutiennent qu'aucun agent, gardien ou tuteur, n'a le droit de spéculer sur les propriétés qui lui sont confiées pour des mineurs. Il n'est pas nécessaire de batailler sur le principe de loi--les principes de la morale sont suffisans pour prouver cette doctrine et c'est sur cette doctrine que j'ai été envoyé en parlement pour renverser les ministres de leurs sièges.

Je ne connais rien des accusations qui ont été faites, mais je condamne le principe de cette déclaration. Le procureur-général Est nie qu'elle ait été faite, mais je demanderai à l'hon. membre si dans le mois de juin dernier, l'Inspecteur-Général n'a pas admis qu'il avait acheté des propriétés appartenant au gouvernement à la Pointe Levi, et avancé qu'il avait le droit de les acheter aussi bien qu'un autre? N'a[-]t-il pas été souvent attaqué dans le parlement pour cette déclaration? Cette déclaration a-t-elle jamais été contrainte par l'hon. Procureur-général, ou par aucun autre membre du Bas-Canada, jusqu'à ce qu'ils aient vu qu'elle était condamnée par toute la province? J'aimerais savoir s'ils la répudient même à présent, si le gouvernement est formé sur la base même de sa condamnation.<sup>124</sup> He had been sent here, also, to enquire into the truth of the rumors generally current that some members of that administration had adopted improper and corrupt means to enrich themselves at the expense of the Government. He was not elected to condemn them on that point, for he did not know anything about it; but he was elected to see that those charges were fully, fairly and thoroughly investigated.<sup>125</sup>

J'ajouterai seulement ici que la Chambre n'a encore rien entendu dire du principe du bill de la tenure seigneuriale, s'il sera le même que celui de la dernière session ou non. S'il en était ainsi je crois que plusieurs membres qui supportent le gouvernement l'abandonneraient.

J'aimerais savoir par exemple, ce que l'hon. membre pour Kamouraska, ou les autres qui ont voté contre le bill à la dernière session, et qui sont main-



tenant liés au gouvernement, en disent. Peut-être les ministres, comme sur la question des Réserves du Clergé, seront-ils obligés de demander l'appui de l'opposition. Ils ne l'auront certainement pas pour cette mesure, qui a été répudiée par tout le district de Montréal, et aussi, je crois, par ceux des Trois-Rivières et de Québec.

J'ai dit l'autre jour que s'il y avait dans le Bas-Canada des propriétés dans la même position que les Réserves du Clergé, je les traiterais de la même manière. Je ne connais aucun principe pour le Haut-Canada qui ne pourrait s'appliquer au Bas. Je n'ai pas de principes d'expédience, je ne suis pas partisan de la double majorité, sur laquelle je crois que les ministres différeront plus tard entre eux,--puisque, pendant que le Secrétaire-Provincial m'accuse d'être opposé au système de la double majorité, le Procureur-général Est se déclare l'un de ses adversaires.

Mais lorsque l'hon. membre pour Toronto a exprimé sa surprise de n'avoir pas entendu parler des dîmes, cet hon. membre aurait dû être informé que personne, dans le Bas-Canada, ne les considérerait comme des droits assurés. Lors de la cession du pays, il fut passé un acte impérial par lequel le pouvoir de collecter les dîmes était considérablement restreint, mais il n'est jamais entré dans l'esprit de personne de les regarder comme des droits assurés et définitifs; et aucune plainte non plus n'a été faite de la violation de ces droits, comme cela aurait certainement eu lieu s'ils avaient été considérés ainsi. Jusque là les dîmes du Bas-Canada sont analogues aux Réserves du H.C., mais il y a une distinction à faire: c'est que la dîme ne concerne aucun homme qui n'appartient pas à l'église pour laquelle elle est prélevée, et tant que le peuple choisit ce mode de payer son clergé, de préférence à un autre, personne n'a le droit de se plaindre.<sup>126</sup> This was a very important point of difference between them and the Clergy Reserves. The Reserves were public property, belonging equally to all denominations, but the tithes were paid out of the private property of those who were willing to pay them, and who made no complaint on the subject.<sup>127</sup> Il n'y a pas une seule pétition devant la chambre demandant leur abolition. Lorsque la majorité du peuple du Bas-Canada demandera leur abolition, comme la majorité du peuple du Haut-Canada demande l'abolition des Réserves, le cas sera différent, et il sera alors de voir ce que nous devons en faire.<sup>128</sup> He had no objection to say that when that time arrived, he for one should not regard the tithes as vested rights. (Hear, hear.)<sup>129</sup> Je donne cette explication simplement parce que je désire qu'il soit bien entendu que je ne désire pas éviter la responsabilité de mes opinions.<sup>130</sup>

MR. ROBLIN declared his confidence in the Reform portion of the administration, and thought they had no right to question the motives of the Conservatives who had joined it. He was willing to give them a fair hearing, and to judge them by the measures they might produce. He stated, in reply to a remark made by Mr. Brown, that if that gentleman would get twelve men in each of the townships in the counties of Lennox and Addington, who supported him at the last election, to call upon him now to resign, he pledged himself that he would resign. (Loud cries of hear, hear.)<sup>131</sup> [He] said if ever a man had worked hard to bring about this coalition, it was the honorable member for Lambton, and he (Mr. Roblin) was surprised at his opposition to his own handiwork. (Hear, hear.) That honorable gentleman had got one instalment of that which he had been working for. When the conservative ministers came into the House he had no doubt they would give good reasons for their course.<sup>132</sup> He said that he should vote against all amendments, and especially against the pending amendment, because it had been gotten up for the purpose of obstructing the public business, and preventing the carrying out of those great meas-

ures which the country required. It would have been more palatable to him to have received those measures from the hands of his own party friends; but he would vote for them, let them come from whom they might.<sup>133</sup> He attributed [the coalition] to the factious course of Messrs. Brown and J.S. Macdonald<sup>134</sup>. The gentleman for Glengarry had said that the Reformers had been sold. He knew nothing about any such sale. He knew of one man who put himself up for sale at the commencement of the session, and he was knocked, not into a cocked hat, but out of one. (Laughter.)<sup>135</sup>

MR. FERRES complained that during the debate very little attention had been paid to the question before the House. That, however, he did not rise to discuss at that late hour; but at the request of a friend to correct a statement that had been made, that the views of one of the late members for Montreal, Mr. Badgley, were identical with those of a person named Gagy, on the seigniorial tenure. Such was not the case. Much was said during the debate on the Grand Trunk Railway, and he was surprised at the ignorance manifested on the subject by those who should have been better informed. Much had also been said in relation to the coalition. All coalitions must necessarily displease some persons; and he was not altogether pleased with this one.<sup>136</sup> The very basis of a coalition was compromise made somewhere and by somebody.<sup>137</sup> But when he looked at the discordant elements on his side of the House he did not see that any other could be made that would not be more objectionable. He thought that the complaint of the discordant nature of the coalition came unhappily from the honorable members for Lambton and Montreal.<sup>138</sup> He believed from what he had seen, that the party now occupying the opposition benches was composed of far more discordant materials than that on the other side. The coalition, on the ministerial side, seemed to him far more natural than the coalition on the other side. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) When he saw the honorable members for Lambton and Glengarry (Messrs. Brown and McDonald uniting with the honorable member for Montreal (Mr. Dorion) and the Rouge party of L.C., he confessed his surprise that they should find fault with the conduct of hon. gentlemen opposite them.<sup>139</sup> He had elsewhere given the party to which Mr. Dorion belonged a qualified support, because of some of the measures that it advocated, and the circumstances in which parties were placed,<sup>140</sup> and he was disposed to go with them on still more, but he had always, as a writer for the press, qualified his support of those gentlemen by stating that they advocated principles which he could not entertain nor support. (Hear, hear.) Those principles he apprehended neither the hon. member for Lambton nor the hon. member for Glengarry were prepared to endorse. Mr. F. then read from the prospectus of a new Rouge paper, showing that one plank of the platform, therein laid down was, "the independence of Canada and its annexation to the United States."<sup>141</sup> The honorable member among other things mentioned the demand for an elective magistracy<sup>142</sup>. He (Mr. F.) did not feel disposed to go as far as that yet. (Hear, hear.) Although he did not know what he might come to. He therefore felt disposed to give his support to the government on all those questions on which he could cordially agree with them, rather than to identify himself with a party whose ultimate principles he could not approve. (Hear, hear.)<sup>143</sup>

[There was] a little skirmishing between MESSRS. J.S. MACDONALD, of Glengarry, and ROBLIN, relative to the right of the latter gentleman to his seat in the house.<sup>144</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD said in effect that Mr. Roblin supported the coalition in the hope by that means of securing his seat. His election was illegal, and

he wanted to prevent inquiry from being made into it.<sup>145</sup>

MR. ROBLIN said the accusation was false, and that it was unjust to try to prejudice the House against his case before it was tried.<sup>146</sup>

MR. FOLEY said a few words amidst constant interruptions, and cries of "question," in defence of Mr. Freeman, who had been attacked in the course of the debate.<sup>147</sup>

[MR. MACKENZIE] urged an adjournment, as ... [he] had a few words to say<sup>148</sup>.

The coalition, supported by MR. GOULD ... and by DR. MASSON ... refused a moment's delay<sup>149</sup>.

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND then rose and expressed his regret that at this time, when the representatives of the people were called together to consult as to the best means of advancing the moral and material prosperity of the Province, so many gentlemen should think proper to indulge in idle and useless vituperation. It was to him a matter of deep concern that gentlemen who had been brought up to the profession of the law, and who had been taught from their earliest boyhood that no man ought to be condemned without a hearing, should rise up here and unblushingly avow that they owed their seats in this house to the dissemination of the basest and vilest slanders. (Hear, hear.)<sup>150</sup> This country never had a greater benefactor than Francis Hincks (cries of oh! oh!) That hon. gentleman had done more than any other man in the province to raise its credit (oh! oh!) When he took office provincial debentures were hawked about and could hardly be sold at any price; but when he left office they were at a premium. Was that no benefit to the country?<sup>151</sup> It was not, indeed, a matter of wonderment to him, who knew how at elections the people were frequently led away by false representations, that the reputation of Francis Hincks should have been sacrificed in order that gentlemen he could name might hold seats upon the floor. (Hear, hear.) But it was a matter of wonderment to him that these men should have the effrontery to come forward and avow that they had achieved these petty honors upon the ruins of the fame of a minister, whose name would be known and honored in Canada long after theirs were consigned to oblivion. (Hear, hear.) Aye, let it go forth throughout the length and breadth of the land, that the hon. member for Montreal (Mr. Dorion) owed his election to the fact that he had defamed the reputation of Francis Hincks, the man who had raised this country from the abyss of bankruptcy to the prosperity it now enjoyed. ("Oh, oh," and cheers.) That hon. gentleman was young and might have been misled, but there was another member for Montreal who knew full well that Francis Hincks was not guilty of the charges brought against him, and who, yet, in his address to the electors, basely assumed the truth of the assertion that the members of the government had been making use of the public funds to enrich themselves.<sup>152</sup>

MR. A DORION, of Montreal, had made no such charge as that. He had merely said that he was elected to oppose the principle laid down by Mr. Hincks and his colleagues, that Ministers of the Crown had the same right as other individuals to speculate in the public funds and property.<sup>153</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND denied emphatically that the Government had ever proclaimed any such principle. The gentleman was therefore elected for the City of Montreal on a false issue--upon a basis of calumny, just as the vote against the ministry in the last Parliament was obtained by a union based upon falsehood and equivocation. (Cheers.) Another honorable member for Montreal



(Mr. Young) had informed the House that the late honorable Inspector General maintained in his evidence before the Court of Chancery that he had a right to deal in the public funds. He (Mr. D.) could find no such statement in the evidence. Mr. Hincks maintained in his evidence that he had a right "to dispose of funds belonging to private corporations," but not to deal in public securities. He defied any one to prove that the honorable Francis Hincks had ever dealt in public securities. He must be excused for saying a few words in defence of Mr. Hincks, because it was admitted on all hands that the late ministry fell mainly in consequence of the accusations brought against that gentleman. (Hear, hear.) Now what was the position of Mr. Hincks? He (Mr. D.) had been informed that Mr. Hincks stated openly in the House last session that he had as much right to purchase public property put up at public auction as any other person, that the thing had never been questioned, and he cited various facts to show that members of the Government had at all times purchased property belonging to the Crown. Now he (Mr. D.) must at once and emphatically repudiate the doctrine that a member of the Government had a right to purchase public property. (Hear, hear.) At the same time, he was aware that a different opinion had been held by some of the most honorable and honest men in the Province. No one, he was sure, would impute to Robert Baldwin a design to enrich himself at the public expense, and yet it might be found that in one case Mr. Baldwin had, for his own personal advantage, purchased a lot in Toronto that was the property of the Crown. He (Mr. D.) thought the practice wrong because it was contrary to a rule that ought never to be departed from, viz: that a trustee should never purchase property belonging to his principal. But suppose the late Inspector General had done wrong in reference to this matter, was it right to condemn the ministers from Lower Canada against whose reputations the breath of calumny had never been wafted?<sup>154</sup>

MR. A. DORION--Certainly.<sup>155</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND [continued:] If the Inspector General, in his private transactions, about which his colleagues were of course ignorant, did wrong, was that any reason why all the other ministers should be condemned? But what had been the course of Mr. Hincks in reference to these matters? Did he not rise<sup>156</sup> the moment they were mentioned in that House,<sup>157</sup> and say, in a manly and spirited manner, "I am ready to submit to an investigation into these charges. I am ready to leave that investigation to a committee appointed by a member of the opposition if you'll only let me choose an honorable man to select that committee?" This was the position he assumed, and were gentlemen prepared to condemn him unheard, and without allowing him a fair trial?<sup>158</sup> But even if Mr. Hincks had done wrong in his individual capacity, the ministry could not be held solidairement responsible for it!<sup>159</sup> He (Mr. D.) stood in a difficult position, and yet few positions were difficult to him, because unlike some honorable members, he had never stooped to intrigue. He had entered public life for the purpose of carrying out certain great objects, for the purpose of endeavoring to stamp upon the legislation of the country, those ideas which he had held since boyhood. Those measures he should endeavour to carry, and those ideas he should endeavour to stamp upon the legislation of the country by whatever means he could avail himself of, so as to promote the prosperity and happiness of his adopted country. He would never ally himself with men who sought office merely for the sake of emolument, and who endeavoured to destroy a ministry merely for the purpose of taking their places, but he was willing to blot out the past, and obliterate all recollections of former difficulties, and ally himself with any set of honorable men who were prepared

to assist him in carrying out the great measures which the country demanded. (Hear, hear.) The honorable member then proceeded, in answer to the charge of Mr. Dorion, that the late ministry and the one that preceded it had done nothing for the country, to give a history of those administrations, and a sketch of the measures which they had been instrumental in carrying. He claimed that they had raised the financial credit of the Province: that they had established a grand railroad system; that they had increased the representation, reformed the municipal system, and established a better judicature, although by no means a perfect one, than Canada had ever enjoyed. A measure in relation to the Seigniorial Tenure had also first been introduced by the late ministry, although revolutionary brawlers had for fifty years been crying out against the evils of the system. He then defended the policy of the late Government by which the Clergy Reserves question was postponed. Passing from these topics, he referred to the statement that the late Inspector General had been offered a place in the present administration. This he denied emphatically, and called upon the Commissioner of Crown Lands to corroborate his denial.<sup>160</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN, being thus appealed to, rose and stated that he certainly was not aware that any office in the present government had at any time, been offered to Mr. Hincks.<sup>161</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND then went on to say that the morning after Sir Allan McNab was sent for, Mr. Hincks told him (Mr. D.) that he would not accept office for any consideration. This was but natural. The hon. member felt how he had been slandered and he wished for some time at least to stand upon the floor of the House as an independent member to meet the men who had assailed him, and to justify himself before the country. (Hear hear.) He (Mr. D.) felt bound also to repudiate the assertion that the present Ministry was formed by the Inspector General.--He had himself brought about the first interview between Sir Allan McNab and that gentleman. It was natural that Sir Allan should desire to know, before undertaking to form a ministry, whether the reform party proper would be disposed to support a government formed on the principle on which it was proposed to be put together, and containing two U.C. Reformers. Had Mr. Hincks been a thousand miles off that government would have been formed and formed on the same basis. (Hear, hear.) The hon. member then proceeded to rebuke the hon. member for Montreal (Mr. Holton) for having in his address to the electors made charges against the late Inspector General.<sup>162</sup>

MR. HOLTON asked what statement he had ever made reflecting on the hon. member for Renfrew (Mr. Hincks)?<sup>163</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND was alluding to the gentleman's address to the Electors of Montreal.<sup>164</sup>

MR. HOLTON begged leave to say that the gentleman had entirely mistaken the purport of his Address. He had never made any charges against the late Inspector General.<sup>165</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND no, but against the whole ministry.<sup>166</sup>

MR. HOLTON replied that the charge which he made against the late ministry in his Address and which he still made, was that they had brought the Session of Parliament to an abrupt close without allowing an investigation of the charges which had been made against them by their present colleagues from U.C., who charged them amongst other things, with being individually and col-

lectively steeped to the lips in corruption and infamy. He accused them of shirking an investigation into those charges.<sup>167</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND heard now for the first time that any of his colleagues had made charges of corruption against the ministry. (Ironical cries of Hear, hear.) He would thank the gentleman to tell him which of those colleagues had done so.<sup>168</sup>

Hear, hear, and a laugh from the opposition benches.<sup>169</sup>

MR. HOLTON explained that he referred to what passed in the House at the last meeting or session. (Hear hear.)<sup>170</sup> [He] referred to the speech of Mr. J.A. Macdonald in June last, in which he charged the ministry with being steeped in corruption.<sup>171</sup>

Loud cries of Hear hear from the opposition.<sup>172</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND said--"Oh! my present colleagues;" and then proceeded to contend that it was in the last degree unjust for hon. members to proceed on charges which were not proved. After speaking on the policy of the government, he said he only supported Mr. Guly in Missisquoi after receiving from him a written pledge not to oppose him (Mr. D.) on the subject of the seigniorial tenure, or the general policy of the government. He asserted that the government had had no hired presses but many had offered their services, which had been rejected. He expressed great surprise at Dr. Rolph's constitutional law, and said he could hardly believe himself when he heard it. If there were one point more clear than another, it was that the crown might choose whomever it pleased for adviser. He contended that it would have been most improper for the governor to have used the word "secularization" in his speech. It did well enough for common use, but it would not do for a state document. To have used that word in his speech would have been to admit that the reserves were legally appropriated for religious purposes--a position which he (Mr. D.) would never admit. The appropriation was not complete--there was only a promise of one.<sup>173</sup> He defined his position on the Clergy Reserve question and in conclusion, expressed his confident belief that the noble Lord at the head of the Government would not leave this country until he had had an opportunity of sanctioning a measure for the entire secularization of the Reserves. (Loud cheers.)<sup>174</sup>

(74)

*The Honorable Mr. Merritt moved, seconded by Mr. Holton, and the Question being put, That the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Aikins, Bell, Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Casault, Daly, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Foley, Gill, Guvremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Lumsden, John S. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, McKerlie, Marchildon, Matheson, Merritt, Murney, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Sanborn, Scatcherd, and Valois.--(33.)*

NAYS.

*Messieurs Alleyn, Biggar, Bowes, Cameron, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Chisholm, Church, Crawford, Crysler, Jean B. Daoust, Delong, Desaulniers, Attorney General Drummond, Dufresne, Egan, Felton, Ferres, Fortier, Fournier, Gamble, Gould, Jackson, Labelle, Laberge, Langton, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Macbeth, Masson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Angus*



Morrison, Munro, Niles, O'Farrell, Patrick, Polette, Poulin, Fouliot, Rankin, Robinson, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Southwick, Stevenson, Taché, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, and Whitney.--(59.)  
*So it passed in the Negative.*

MR. MERRITT congratulated the country on the approaching settlement of the questions alluded to in the address, which had long been demanded by the people, as members from both sides of the House admitted that they must be settled. The only point to which he desired to draw the attention of the House, was whether it could be permitted under the system of responsible Government for a minority to rule a majority. In Lord Durham's Report of 1839, was the following sentence:--

"I admit that the system which I propose, would in fact, place the internal Government of the colony in the hands of the colonists themselves."

In the resolution introduced by the Hon. Robert Baldwin which he found recorded in the journals of 1841, the only constitution which has yet received the sanction of any part of the people of Canada--he found the doctrine that, while the Government was to be responsible to the imperial authorities, the local affairs of this province could only be conducted with the assistance, counsel, and information, of advisers who possess the confidence of the people, thus affording a guarantee that the well understood wishes and interests of the people will on all occasions be faithfully represented. It was as he (Mr. Merritt) understood that this system secured to the people of Canada the Government of the majority of the people. But in what manner is that system now adhered to? By the administration which had just been formed they saw that the whole patronage and influence of the Government in Upper Canada had been transferred to the minority. An attempt had been made to justify this proceeding on the ground of British precedent and constitutional practice. But what did the people of Canada care about that? What interest had they in those precedents (sic)? They did not care whether advice was given by a retiring minister or not to a Governor who was not responsible. It was quite sufficient for them to know that a power existed that had exercised in direct opposition to their wishes clearly expressed at the late elections. How was the new cabinet organised? First, by obtaining the resignation of every member for Upper Canada; and second by leaving out part of the cabinet from Upper Canada, and supplying their places with the personal friends of the late premier--elevating one member from a reform constituency and the other, from the conservative party. Sir Allan Macnab to be the nominal leader from Upper Canada, and Mr. Morin for Lower Canada, but who was to be leader for the entire Province did not appear. The cabinet thus formed by uniting the party in Lower Canada under Mr. Morin, and the party in Upper Canada, from reform Constituencies under Mr. Hincks, with the conservatives under Sir A. Macnab would give a majority for the time being, of that House; and the people of Canada would be deprived of the opportunity (sic) of exercising any authority over this ministry till the next election. This flagrant violation of their rights would open their eyes to the absurdity of the entire system of responsible Government as now amended. The effect of double majorities will be to keep the majority of the whole country under the control of the minority of Lower Canada, as under the administration of Lord Metcalfe, and the majority in Upper Canada, under the control of the minority, as at present. The uncertainty, delay, and useless expenditure attendant on this system had been apparent since the union. The change of ministry under Lord Metcalfe kept a minority in power for years. The change of 1848 retarded the

legislation of one entire season. The present change has caused a delay of all business; and reckless extravagance has been introduced in every department of the Government without one redeeming quality in the administration of affairs. However well this system may work in Great Britain, where privileged (*sic*) classes compose one branch of the legislature,--where land is owned and wealth abounds among the few,--where members of the House of Commons are not paid, and where the Government exercises the functions of an independent power, it is quite clear it can never work in Canada, where, he thanked God no privileged (*sic*) class could exist where land is owned and wealth distributes (*sic*) alike to all, and where the functions of Government are limited to our internal affairs. In a country thus situated with an intelligent population, power could not long remain in the hands of some half-dozen individuals--frequently controlled by one--who composed the Executive Council--and not by any other branch of the Government. The remedy would be to call a convention, and frame a constitution (*sic*) adapted to British North America to be sanctioned by the Imperial Government; but as this plan did not seem to find favor with the Imperial or Colonial Governments, nothing was left but to agitate for the dissolution of the union. Separation was the only remedy against the tyranny of double majorities. When each part of the Province was left to manage its own affairs we might then look for harmony, but not until then. He (Mr. Merritt) had been called by the late premier and other members of the Government, a "Governmental impossibility." That was not the first title with which he had been honored, and when the country understood the cause in place of being a reproach it would redound to his credit. It was well known that he resigned in 1850 in consequence of not being able to effect retrenchment and other measures which he desired. Since then he had on all occasions expressed the opinion that under the present system no useful administration is possible no matter who may compose the cabinet, and he would form a part of no Government unless for the express object of changing the system they might mark his words a change of system would come in a few years.<sup>175</sup>

(74)

*And the House having continued to sit till after Twelve of the clock on Wednesday morning;*<sup>176</sup>

WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(74)

*And the Question being again proposed, That the words "consider it is most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner" be left out of the sixth paragraph, and the words "will with a view to promote the interest of religion and social harmony without further delay give our best attention to the maturing of a measure for the secularization of the Clergy Reserves, by which the opinions of the People of the Province, as expressed at the late Election in no equivocal manner, will be carried into effect, and this fertile source of discord and agitation will be forever removed [,"] inserted instead thereof;*

The debate was continued for some time longer amidst the greatest confusion and uproar.<sup>177</sup>

(75)

*And the Question being put on the Amendment; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

## YEAS.

Messieurs Aikins, Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Daly, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dufresne, Ferrie, Foley, Frazer, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Lumsden, John S. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, McKerlie, Marchildon, Merritt, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Valois, and Young.--(33.)

## NAYS.

Messieurs Alleyn, Bell, Bellingham, Biggar, Bowes, Burton, Cameron, Cartier, Casault, Cauchon, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Chisholm, Church, Clarke, Crawford, Crysler, Jean B. Daoust, Delong, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Egan, Felton, Ferres, Fortier, Fournier, Gamble, Gill, Gould, Jackson, Labelle, Langton, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Macbeth, Masson, Matheson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, Murney, Niles, O'Farrell, Patrick, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Powell, Rankin, Rhodes, Robinson, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Stevenson, Taché, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Whitney, and Yeilding.--(70.)

So it passed in the Negative. 178

Then the Question being put on the sixth paragraph; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--

## YEAS.

Messieurs Alleyn, Bell, Bellingham, Biggar, Bowes, Burton, Cameron, Cartier, Casault, Cauchon, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Chisholm, Church, Clarke, Crawford, Crysler, Jean B. Daoust, Delong, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Egan, Felton, Ferres, Fortier, Fournier, Gamble, Gill, Gould, Jackson, Labelle, Langton, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Macbeth, Masson, Matheson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, Murney, Niles, O'Farrell, Patrick, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Powell, Rankin, Rhodes, Robinson, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Stevenson, Taché, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Whitney, and Yeilding.--(70.)

(76)

## NAYS.

Messieurs Aikins, Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Daly, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dufresne, Ferrie, Foley, Frazer, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Lumsden, John S. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, McKerlie, Marchildon, Merritt, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Valois, and Young.--(33.)

So it was resolved in the Affirmative.

The seventh paragraph being again read;

And a Debate arising thereupon;

Mr. Laberge moved, seconded by Mr. Holton, and the Question being put, That the Debate be adjourned until this day; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--

## YEAS.

Messieurs Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Casault, Church, Charles Daoust, Darche, Dionne, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dufresne, Ferrie, Foley, Frazer, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, John S. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Marchildon, Munro, Murney, Papin, Prévost, Rankin, Rolph, Thibaudeau, Valois, and Young.--(32.)



## NAYS.

Messieurs Alleyn, Biggar, Bowes, Burton, Cartier, Cauchon, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Chisholm, Clarke, Crawford, Crysler, Daly, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Attorney General Drummond, Felton, Fortier, Fournier, Gill, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Macbeth, Masson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Angus Morrison, Niles, O'Farrell, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Powell, Rhodes, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Scatcherd, Sidney Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Taché, Turcotte, Whitney, and Yeilding.--(50.)

So it passed in the Negative.

Mr. Foley moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Young, and the Question being put, That the Debate be adjourned until this day; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--

## YEAS.

Messieurs Brown, Bureau, Casault, Church, Charles Daoust, Darche, Jean B. E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dufresne, Ferrie, Foley, Frazer, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, John S. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Marchildon, Muney, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Thibaudeau, Valois, and Young.--(28.)

(77)

## NAYS.

Messieurs Biggar, Bowes, Burton, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Clarke, Crawford, Crysler, Daly, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Felton, Ferres, Fortier, Fournier, Gill, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Masson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, Niles, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Powell, Rankin, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Scatcherd, Sidney Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Taché, Turcotte, Whitney, and Yeilding.--(48.)

So it passed in the Negative.

The Honorable Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Roderick McDonald, and the Question being put, That this House do now adjourn; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--

## YEAS.

Messieurs Brown, Bureau, Daly, Charles Daoust, Darche, Jean B. E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dufresne, Ferrie, Foley, Frazer, Guévremont, Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Marchildon, Murney, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Valois, and Young.--(25.)

## NAYS.

Messieurs Bellingham, Bowes, Burton, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Chisholm, Clarke, Crawford, Crysler, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Egan, Felton, Ferres, Fortier, Fournier, Gill, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Macbeth, John S. Macdonald, Masson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, O'Farrell, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Powell, Rankin, Rhodes, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Scatcherd, Sidney Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Taché, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Whitney, and Yeilding.--(53.)

So it passed in the Negative.

Mr. Holton moved, seconded by Mr. Ferrie, and the Question being put, That this House do now adjourn; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--

## YEAS.

Messieurs Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Daly, Charles Daoust, Darche, Jean B. E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dufresne, Ferres, Ferrie, Frazer, Guévremont,

Hartman, Holton, Jobin, Laberge, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, Marchildon, Murney, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Valois, and Young.--(26.)

(78)

NAYS.

Messieurs Bellingham, Bowes, Burton, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Clarke, Crawford, Crysler, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Egan, Felton, Fortier, Fournier, Gill, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, Macbeth, John S. Macdonald, Masson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Angus Morrison, Munro, Niles, O'Farrell, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Powell, Rankin, Rhodes, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Scatcherd, Sidney Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Taché, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, Whitney, and Yeilding.--(52.)

*So it passed in the Negative.*

Mr. Holton moved, seconded by Mr. Ferrie, and the Question being put, That Mr. Speaker do leave the Chair from seven o'clock until ten o'clock in the forenoon; the House divided:--And it passed in the Negative.

And the seventh paragraph being again read, as followeth: That the condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interest both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada having to look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighbouring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals.

MR. C. DAOUST, de Beauharnais, après quelques remarques préliminaires, dit que quelques membres ont parlé contre l'administration sous le prétexte que les biens de l'Eglise devraient être maintenus, et pour sa part il ne peut comprendre comment l'hon. membre pour Montmorency peut donner son appui au ministère, le premier principe de l'alliance existant entre ses parties étant justement la destruction de cette propriété.

Le Procureur-Général Est a dit que cette alliance était un grand triomphe pour les principes des réformistes. Chacun peut en croire ce qu'il voudra sous ce rapport, mais pour sa part il pense que deux ou trois triomphes semblables seraient une ruine complète. C'en est un qui jettera les deux partis dans un abîme, d'où ils ne reviendront jamais.

Il a voté pour le premier amendement proposé à l'adresse, qui cherchait à indiquer de quelle manière les Réserves devaient être "ajustées," et il l'a fait parce qu'il a cru que cette démarche était justifiée par le discours du trône. Cependant la persistante opposition du ministère lui a donné la mesure de la bonne foi de l'administration, et de ce qu'on doit en attendre par le caractère de la combinaison actuelle et par les éléments qui ont fait l'étrange alliance qui la supporte. D'abord, dans ces éléments, il y a ceux qui avaient depuis longtemps supporté le dernier ministère; ensuite il se trouve quelques libéraux qui, peut-être sincèrement, ont prétendu que cette combinaison était la seule possible, et que, comme il doit y avoir un gouvernement, ils endossent celui-ci plutôt qu'ils le supportent. Viennent ensuite ceux qui étaient avant et qui continuent à être amis des conservateurs.

Il a été proposé à la Chambre de rendre le Conseil Législatif Electif, le règlement--non l'abolition--de la tenure seigneuriale, et l'ajustement des Réserves du Clergé. Il est évident, d'après ces phrases, que ceux qui ont

rédigé le discours du trône prévoyaient ce qui a eu lieu depuis, puisqu'il a été clairement fait pour rencontrer les difficultés soulevées par la formation de la nouvelle administration,--le mot "ajustement" étant précisément celui qui rencontrait les vues des conservateurs, comme l'avait dit l'un des plus avancés d'entre eux, qui semblait regarder ce mot comme une découverte très heureuse.

Il était, certes, impos[s]ible que ces mesures fussent supportées par le parti conservateur. Ce parti était opposé au principe électif dans le Conseil Législatif, et contre la sécularisation des Réserves,--et cependant il se propose de donner son appui au ministère. Les conservateurs ont sans doute leurs raisons pour en agir ainsi, et il soupçonne que ces raisons sont qu'ils veulent rendre les mesures en question convenables pour eux-mêmes, mais nullement convenables aux libéraux soit du Bas-Canada, soit du Haut-Canada.

Quand à l'alliance, il nie qu'elle soit sous aucun rapport une alliance naturelle. Ceux qui, en 1837, et longtemps avant, luttèrent dans le Haut-Canada contre le torysme, et l'insolente oligarchie qui régnait alors, étaient les vrais alliés de tout ce qui est libéral dans le Bas-Canada. Est-ce que ceux des Haut-Canadiens qui cherchaient à priver les Bas-Canadiens de leurs libertés, et à les noircir aux yeux du peuple anglais, doivent être considérés comme des alliés naturels?

Non, ceux qui se sont jetés au sein d'un gouvernement libéral, après avoir dévoué leurs vies à certains principes, ne jetteront pas aujourd'hui le froc aux orties, leur passé et leurs réputations acquises, sans une récompense quelconque. S'imaginera-t-on que des hommes sont passés, armes et bagage, aux réformistes, sans avoir pris des garanties; sans avoir des promesses pour ce qui est à venir? Il ne peut pas le croire, et s'il se trouvait actuellement des ministres du Haut-Canada, en Chambre, il serait donné des explications qui lui donneraient raison.

Il ne met pas en question la sincérité de l'hon. Commissaire des Terres, mais cet honorable monsieur s'est trop souvent montré faible, pour qu'il (M. Morin) pense se croire aujourd'hui le jouet de ceux qui l'entourent.

Il ne peut que regretter vivement la conduite du ministère, qui est de suite passé à la discussion d'un sujet si important que celui de la Tenure Seigneuriale; mais quoique la considération de ce sujet soit si brusquement arrêtée, il croyait que l'amendement, qui indiquait le mode au moyen duquel on devait régler la question seigneuriale, devait être adopté.

C'était là l'opinion du District de Montréal et ce serait probablement l'opinion du ministère lui-même, s'il entendait les explications qui peuvent être données.

L'hon. Secrétaire-Provincial (M. Chauveau) avait cru produire beaucoup d'effet, en disant que la seule différence qui existait entre les libéraux et le parti ministériel consistait dans le désir chez les libéraux d'avoir des institutions électives et des parlements plus fréquents. L'hon. monsieur sait pourtant bien que ce n'est pas là la seule différence. Les doctrines exposées par l'hon. membre pour Montréal (M. D.) allaient beaucoup plus loin, et s'il avait parlé de ces deux sujets en particulier, il ne fallait pas oublier les autres et ceux dont il aurait pu entretenir la Chambre, s'il n'avait voulu sauver son temps.

Il y a beaucoup d'autres mesures, qui étaient attendues avec impatience, mais qu'il craignait de voir être ajournées, en conséquence des combinaisons ministérielles.

On avait accusé les membres de ce côté de la Chambre d'avoir fait de l'opposition à la dernière administration; mais comment pouvait-il en être autre-



ment? Ils étaient là pour dire ce que le peuple les chargerait de dire.

Et de quoi s'est-il agi aux dernières élections; sur quoi l'appel au peuple a-t-il eu lieu; et sur quoi le peuple s'est-il prononcé? Ce n'a été ni sur les Réserves du Clergé, ni sur la Tenure Seigneuriale, car ces deux questions étaient mûres pour le peuple;--mais ç'a été sur la conduite du ministère, que le dernier Parlement avait condamné.

Et si tous les membres de la chambre avaient rempli et remplissaient leurs devoirs et les instructions qu'ils avaient reçues, les bancs du côté de la chambre d'où il parle seraient comblés.

Après les fatigues que la Chambre a dû subir et la répétition fréquente qui a eu lieu des idées qui animent son parti,--il s'abstiendra d'occuper plus longtemps l'attention des membres. Il ne lui reste plus qu'à enregistrer son protêt contre l'adresse, en votant pour (sic) l'amendement proposé.<sup>179</sup>

(78)

*Mr. Laberge moved in amendment thereto, seconded by Mr. Holton, That all the words after "That" to the end thereof be left out, and the words "this House will proceed at an early period to take into consideration the Seigniorial Tenures, which it believes should be immediately abolished, for the interest of the Seigniors, for that of the Censitaires, and for the advantage of the Province at large; and at the same time will respect and secure the rights of all parties interested" inserted instead thereof;*

MR. LABERGE dit que l'amendement qu'il a proposé, avait pour objet de faire ressortir de l'adresse, d'une manière plus claire, les intentions du ministère, sur le mode de règlement de la Tenure Seigneuriale.

On ne trouve, ni dans le discours du trône, ni dans les explications des ministres, l'indication d'aucune mesure qui puisse être acceptée par aucun homme non plus qu'aucun parti. Il est à sa connaissance qu'un hon. membre a voté pour la résolution qui concerne les Réserves, parce qu'elle ne peut, à son avis, impliquer aucun règlement quelconque de la question.

L'hon. Proc.-Gén. du Bas-Canada a dit il y a quelques jours qu'on ne pouvait voir autre chose que la sécularisation, dans la phrase du discours, et malgré cela, comment se faisait-il que le mot résonnait si mal à l'oreille des ministres, qu'ils le repoussaient avec une impatience incroyable?

Il en est de même pour la Tenure Seigneuriale. Il n'a été donné aucune explication sur ce que l'on se propose de faire, et l'on insiste pour que le vote soit pris immédiatement? Il semble pourtant que l'amendement ne propose rien que de tangible et de raisonnable.

On pourra dire à la Chambre, encore une fois, que la question en est une pour les tribunaux, ou que c'est un simple règlement. Mais il désirait que, sans entrer dans aucun détail, on définit clairement, si l'on allait donner une commutation volontaire ou une abolition totale.

Au-delà de cette base, l'amendement ne liait personne à appuyer tel ou tel détail.

La seule différence dans l'esprit public tournait sur cette difficulté.

Son amendement tranche la question, tourne tous les regards et toutes les études dans la même direction,--il demande l'abolition immédiate.

Et si les rumeurs qui circulent sont vraie[s], si ce n'est pas une calomnie contre le ministère, que l'on viendra bientôt demander à la Chambre de voter £60,000 par année, pour supporter une armée, pour défendre la colonie contre les ennemis de l'Angleterre, il est certain que le pays est assez riche pour dépenser une somme bien moindre dans la vue d'obtenir un but infiniment plus utile.

(L'orateur lit ici son amendement que nous avons publié.)

Cet amendement est nécessaire dans les circonstances, car le discours ne dit rien autre chose que ce qui se répète depuis dix ans.

Il y a longtemps qu'il est dit et admis que c'était le devoir du gouvernement d'arrêter les abus de la Tenure, qui ont pris de grandes proportions, précisément parce que le gouvernement les favorisait, ou du moins leur laissait le champ libre. S'il en est ainsi, et il est d'opinion que c'est là le cas, il est maintenant du devoir du gouvernement de payer, pour couper le mal dans sa racine.

La dernière partie de son amendement regarde le respect que l'on doit porter à la propriété, en abolissant la Tenure; la seule différence qui existe entre d'amendement et l'adresse ministérielle, est que dans ce dernier document, on parle bien du respect que nous devons porter à la propriété des seigneurs, sans dire un mot de celui dont nous devons entourer la propriété du censitaire.<sup>180</sup>

MR. PAPIN dit qu'il ne pouvait s'empêcher de faire quelques remarques sur la circonstance extraordinaire qui paraissait avoir réuni les restes des deux anciens partis libéral et tory qui, après s'être fait une guerre acharnée pendant de longues années, s'étaient alliés tout à coup comme par enchantement. Il était d'opinion, comme ceux qui soutenaient cette alliance, qu'un gouvernement était nécessaire. Mais ce gouvernement devait, suivant lui, être formé suivant l'esprit de la constitution. Or quel objet la constitution pouvait-elle avoir en vue lorsqu'elle obligeait une administration qui ne possédait plus la confiance de la majorité de la Chambre de se retirer pour faire place à une autre? Ce devait être de la faire remplacer par une autre dont les idées et les principes fussent plus en harmonie avec ceux de la majorité du peuple. Il était facile, en suivant le cours des événements depuis l'Union des Canadas, de se convaincre que dans les deux sections de la province les idées de réformes et de progrès avaient toujours été croissantes. Dans le Haut-Canada MM. Baldwin et Prince, qui dans un temps avaient été considérés comme les chefs du parti libéral dans cette section de la province, avaient été obligés de se retirer devant l'opinion publique qui exigeait des réformes auxquelles ces messieurs croyaient ne pouvoir consentir. Dans le Bas-Canada les mêmes causes avaient nécessité la retraite de M. Lafontaine, qui avait été obligé de faire place à d'autres qui se prétendaient plus avancés.

Et déjà depuis plusieurs années il s'était formé dans le Bas-Canada un parti qui, depuis son existence, n'avait cessé de réclamer les réformes et les mesures que MM. Lafontaine et Morin avaient eux-mêmes déclarées, dans un temps, nécessaires pour le pays, mais qu'ils avaient ensuite abandonnées. Ce nouveau parti fut traité d'utopiste, d'impraticable; néanmoins l'influence qu'il exerça sur l'opinion publique par le développement des doctrines qu'il professait, se fit sentir sur le gouvernement et obligea la dernière administration, pour se maintenir au pouvoir, de paraître céder à ses exigences, et d'introduire quelques-unes des mesures que ce parti réclamait avec la majorité du pays.

Mais on ne fut pas longtemps sans s'apercevoir que ces mesures n'avaient été présentées que pour gagner du temps, et que l'administration qui les avait promises ne désirait pas sincèrement leur passation. En effet durant la dernière session, la majorité de la Chambre, voyant que l'administration l'avait trompée, qu'elle avait violé les promesses réitérées de régler durant ce parlement les grandes questions qui étaient devenues une source d'agitation pour le pays, retira à cette administration la confiance qu'elle lui avait accordée jusqu'alors.

Les ministres d'alors, au lieu de résigner, usèrent du droit qu'ils avaient d'en appeler au peuple par des élections générales. Or le peuple les jugea comme la Chambre les avait jugés; et le résultat des élections démontre jusqu'à l'évidence le progrès des idées réformistes et démocratiques. Dans le Haut-Canada une majorité considérable ratifia le vote de la Chambre d'Assemblée et élut des représentants dont la mission était de travailler sans délai à la passation des mesures que le ministère d'alors avait refusées. Dans le Bas-Canada, partout où des hommes appartenant au parti que l'on a appelé avec raison "Le Jeune Canada" se présentèrent avec le programme de leurs idées démocratiques, ils remportèrent des triomphes éclatants.

A Montréal, la première ville du Canada, sous le rapport de la population et du commerce, six candidats se mirent sur les rangs. Trois se prononcèrent d'une manière décidée contre l'administration; et aucun autre n'ôsa se prononcer ouvertement en sa faveur. Et les trois qui pouvaient être soupçonnés d'être favorables à cette administration furent laissés dans une écrasante minorité, tandis que M. A.A. Dorion, qui représentait plus particulièrement les idées démocratiques du Jeune Canada, se trouva en tête des listes de votation, avec un nombre de voix excédant de beaucoup le nombre que jamais aucun candidat n'avait obtenu dans cette cité. Suivait M. Holton, dont les idées étaient parfaitement connues pour être démocratiques et dont l'élection était entièrement liée avec celle de M. Dorion. Le comté de Terrebonne donne aussi un exemple frappant et significatif de l'opinion de ses habitants. Si un partisan du ministère d'alors avait une chance d'être élu dans ce comté, c'était sans doute l'hon. M. Morin qui le représentait depuis plusieurs années et qui l'avait reçu des mains de M. Lafontaine. Eh bien! qu'est-il arrivé? M. Morin, cet homme entouré du respect et de l'estime universels, fut battu dans le comté de Terrebonne, et ne put se procurer un siège en parlement qu'en allant se faire élire dans les comtés de Chicoutimi et Tadoussac; et encore y fut-il élu d'une manière illégale, puisqu'il ne fut pas mis en nomination.

M. Papin attira aussi l'attention de la Chambre sur le résultat des élections dans les comté[s] de Beauharnais, de l'Assomption, de Drummond-Arthabaska, où M. J.B.E. Dorion obtint une majorité de 1061 voix, du comté Joliette qui s'empessa de réélire par acclamation son ami M. Jobin, que deux ou trois comtés voisins se disputaient à l'envie, pour la conduite indépendante et patriotique qu'il avait tenue en Chambre dans le dernier parlement, lorsqu'il était presque seul du Bas-Canada à défendre les droits de ses compatriotes contre la conduite et les empiétations d'un gouvernement rétrograde. Le comté d'Iberville avait donné le même exemple en élisant par acclamation son ami M. Laberge;--et plusieurs autres comtés s'étaient aussi prononcés dans le même sans (sic).

Dans le district de Québec, où le parti démocratique n'avait pas de journaux pour représenter ses opinions, et où était le siège du gouvernement, le résultat était différent. Néanmoins ce n'était que par l'intervention ouverte des ministres dans l'élection, par l'exercice partial du patronage immense que le gouvernement avait à sa disposition, par les fraudes électorales au moyen desquelles des candidats avaient obtenu jusqu'à neuf et quatorze mille voix, et par une corruption épouvantable, en répandant de l'argent à pleines mains, que le ministère avait réussi dans plusieurs cas à faire élire ses amis. Et malgré tout cela la démocratie ne se trouvait pas encore sans représentant dans ce district, puisque M. Huot, représentant du Saguenay, qui avait déclaré vouloir attendre les mesures de la nouvelle administration pour la juger, avait exprimé des idées aussi réformistes et aussi démocratiques que celles du parti



le plus avancé de la Chambre, et qu'il ne différerait d'avec ce parti que sur les moyens immédiats à adopter.

Sur le tout la nouvelle représentation s'était trouvée tellement composée qu'à l'ouverture de la session le ministère a senti qu'il ne pouvait plus tenir. Le premier acte de la nouvelle Chambre fut l'élection à la place d'orateur de l'hon. L.V. Sicotte, sur la proposition duquel le ministère avait été battu dans le mois de juin dernier. En un mot l'administration comprit si bien le jugement que le pays avait prononcé aux dernières élections et que ses représentants étaient sur le point de reproduire par leurs votes, qu'elle résigna avant de proposer la réponse au Discours du Trône. Elle plaida coupable pour éviter l'instruction de son procès, et sans doute pour attirer la sympathie et la clémence de ses juges.

Sous ces circonstances à quoi le pays devait-il s'attendre? Qu'exigeait la constitution? Rien autre chose qu'une nouvelle administration composée d'hommes de progrès dont les idées auraient été en harmonie avec celles du peuple clairement exprimées aux élections. Au lieu de cela qu'est-il arrivé? On a soigneusement exclu des nouveaux arrangements l'élément de progrès et de réforme qui avait renversé l'ancienne administration. On a mis à la tête du nouveau ministère le chef du parti tory. En un mot, on a choisi, pour faire marcher plus vite les mesures de progrès dont le pays demande la passation immédiate, des hommes dont toute la vie politique a été consacrée à opposer ces mêmes mesures. Est-ce là respecter la volonté du peuple? Est-ce obéir à sa voix? Est-ce respecter la constitution pour laquelle on prétend avoir tant de sollicitude et d'affection, mais qu'on méprise et dont on se moque quand on a intérêt de le faire? Est-ce là la mise en pratique du gouvernement responsable?

Néanmoins nous avons une administration, quelle qu'elle soit, et il s'agit en ce moment de considérer quels peuvent être ses titres à la confiance du pays.

Ici l'orateur fit voir combien était malfondée la proposition émise par M. Chauveau, que la présente administration n'était pas responsable des actes de la précédente; que les membres de l'administration actuelle du Bas-Canada étant les mêmes que ceux de l'ancienne, ils étaient tous responsables et solidaires de la conduite du ministère défunt; qu'autrement des ministres pourraient faire tout le mal possible, résigner ensuite quand la Chambre les y obligerait, puis reprendre leurs portefeuilles et dire: Nous ne sommes coupables de rien, notre résignation a effacé tous nos actes passés, nous avons maintenant droit à la confiance du peuple. Il ne peut pas en être ainsi. Et les ministres du Bas-Canada sont responsables moralement et constitutionnellement de tout ce qui a été fait par l'administration précédente dont ils faisaient partie. Ils sont donc tenus de se justifier des accusations de corruption et de spéculation qui ont été portées contre le ministère qui vient d'être renversé; et l'hon. Procureur-général (M. Drummond), quand il a déclaré tout à l'heure qu'il répudiait la doctrine qu'un membre du gouvernement pouvait acheter les propriétés publiques dont il était le gardien et l'administrateur, a rendu contre lui-même un verdict auquel il aurait pu se soustraire en faisant cette déclaration dans le mois de juin dernier, et en se séparant du ministère dont le chef, M. Hincks, soutenait ouvertement qu'il avait ce droit. Il a, au contraire, approuvé tacitement la conduite de M. Hincks en continuant de rester au pouvoir avec lui, et il en est responsable ainsi que ses autres collègues du Bas-Canada. Ils sont tous coupables d'avoir violé les promesses qu'ils avaient faites ouvertement de réunir les chambres dans le mois de février dernier, et de passer avant l'expiration du dernier parlement les mesures qu'ils avaient promises. Ils sont coupables d'avoir violé la constitution en

ne donnant qu'une seule session, pendant un parlement de trois ans, quand elle exige une session chaque année.

Que doit-on attendre de cette administration relativement à la Tenure Seigneuriale? L'hon. M. Drummond est le seul qui s'en soit occupé, et qu'a-t-il fait? Le bill qu'il a déjà proposé et qui paraît devoir être soumis de nouveau, sans modification importante, n'est certainement pas acceptable et a été condamné par tout le Bas-Canada et plus particulièrement par le district de Montréal, dans lequel les censitaires ont souffert plus que partout ailleurs.

L'hon. membre pour Saguenay (M. Huot) qui veut attendre les mesures du ministère, a déclaré lui-même que le bill n'était pas acceptable dans les circonstances. D'ailleurs peut-on croire que M. Drummond soit sincère en proposant ce bill? Non, car qui veut la fin veut les moyens. Or qu'a fait M. Drummond? Il n'a pas craint, dans les dernières élections, d'aller supporter M. Gagy, un homme qui est connu comme l'adversaire le plus actif et peut-être le plus redoutable de l'abolition de la Tenure Seigneuriale. Si, malheureusement, il avait réussi, par tous les moyens qu'il a employés à faire élire M. Gagy, nous aurions en Chambre un homme qui apporterait toute espèce d'entraves au règlement de cette question. Et M. Drummond n'avait aucune excuse pour en agir ainsi, car M. Gagy a toujours été opposé en politique au parti auquel il appartient; et ils ont eu souvent à lutter ensemble. Mais cette conduite de M. Drummond est d'accord avec celle de tous ses collègues qui ont laissé mourir au Conseil Législatif la mesure qui avait été passée en chambre, sans essayer de prendre les moyens qu'ils ont pris dans d'autres occasions pour assurer la passation de leurs mesures devant cette branche impopulaire de la législature. Que devons-nous attendre de cette administration sur la question du Conseil Législatif électif? Un bill comme celui qui a déjà été proposé, restreignant le choix du peuple aux ex-maires et ex-représentans de l'Assemblée Législative. Et encore ont-ils intention de faire passer ces mesures, toutes imparfaites qu'elles sont? Si on les juge par leurs actes passés, on doit croire que non, car ils les avaient promises dans le dernier parlement, et ils ont violé leurs promesses. Ceci doit nous faire croire qu'ils veulent tenir ces mesures suspendues pour rallier autour d'eux tous ceux qui en désirent la passation, et continuer à gouverner comme ils le font depuis plusieurs années, sans donner au pays la satisfaction qu'il a droit d'attendre.

D'un autre côté l'alliance faite par l'administration du Bas-Canada avec Sir Allan McNab et ses amis, est-elle propre à donner au pays, en faveur de la nouvelle administration, la confiance qu'il n'avait pas dans la précédente? Est-ce pour supporter une alliance de ce genre que les électeurs des deux parties de la province nous ont confié le mandat dont nous sommes revêtus? Au contraire beaucoup des hon. membres qui siègent de l'autre côté de la Chambre et donnent leur appui à cette alliance immorale, ne seraient pas ici, s'ils avaient déclaré à leurs constituants sur le husting qu'ils étaient prêts à supporter une administration dont Sir Allan McNab, le chef du parti tory et du family compact, serait le premier ministre.

Quelles garanties nous offrent les nouveaux alliés de l'administration du Bas-Canada? Quelle est leur conduite passée? Ne sont-ils pas les mêmes que ceux qui voulaient que la langue française fut bannie des procédés parlementaires, et des cours de justice; que la représentation du Bas-Canada, à une époque où elle excédait de 200,000 celle du Haut, eût quatorze représentans de moins? Qu'on ouvre les pages de l'histoire et on trouvera ces faits enregistrés. Ne sont-ils pas les mêmes que ceux qui, dans le dernier parlement, ont voté contre l'abolition de la Tenure Seigneuriale, contre le Conseil Législatif Electif, qui ont été pendant toute leur vie publique, opposés à la sécularisation des Réserves du Clergé? Mais, nous dit-on, leurs opinions sur toutes ces questions

sont changées, et ils sont maintenant en faveur de toutes ces mesures. Le résultat prouvera quel est ce changement; et nous verrons jusqu'à quel point Sir Allan McNab et ses amis, quand ils seront de retour en Chambre, permettront aux ministres du Bas-Canada de leur dire en face qu'ils ont renié tout leur passé, qu'ils ont répudié les principes politiques pour lesquels ils avaient combattu avec tant d'acharnement depuis trente ans et plus. Nous verrons, quand ces mesures seront introduites ... et qui cède en réalité. Le parti prétendu libéral du Bas-Canada a fait un acte auquel il n'a peut-être pas assez réfléchi, mais dont les conséquences sont extrêmement graves. Ceux qui ont accepté cette alliance paraissent avoir plutôt en cela consulté leurs propres intérêts que ceux du pays. Ils n'ont pas réfléchi qu'ils relevaient le family compact, cette oligarchie contre laquelle ils avaient tant crié, et qu'ils avaient eu à combattre si longtemps alors qu'ils s'occupaient plus de défendre les droits du peuple que de se faire une position. Ils ont oublié qu'ils allaient relever ce parti qu'ils avaient enseigné à leurs compatriotes de détester, et qu'ils s'étaient fait un si grand mérite d'avoir abattu pour toujours. Ils ont oublié qu'ils avaient essayé de perdre MM. D.B. Viger et Papineau en criant au peuple: ils sont alliés avec les tories.

Ils ont remis le pouvoir entre les mains de ceux qui autrefois en ont tant abusé. Quelles en sont les conséquences? Où en serait le parti de la réforme dans le Bas-Canada, si Sir Allan McNab, qui est aujourd'hui le premier ministre, congédiait tour-à-tour, pour un prétexte ou pour un autre, les ministres du Bas-Canada, et mettait à leur place les anciens chefs du parti tory dans cette section de la province? Nul doute qu'une semblable combinaison ne pourrait être de longue durée; néanmoins, au moyen du patronage immense que notre système de gouvernement met à la disposition des hommes du pouvoir, une pareille administration pourrait peut-être, aidée de la phalange des partisans de tous les pouvoirs, gouverner pendant quelque temps le pays, malgré les sentiments de la majorité du peuple.

Mais on a invoqué la nécessité; pour diminuer la répugnance que le public doit avoir pour une pereeille (sic) coalition, on lui dit qu'elle était nécessaire et que c'était le seul gouvernement possible dans les circonstances actuelles. Comme de raison ceux qui sont en place ont toujours soin de dire et de faire dire qu'eux seuls sont capables et dignes de gouverner le pays. Quand on a prétendu que M. Hincks devait être mis hors du gouvernement parce que sa conduite était un sujet de scandale, et n'était propre qu'à enlever au gouvernement le degré de confiance qu'un gouvernement doit posséder, que répondaient les supports du gouvernement? Ils répondaient tous en chœur: "Mais y pensez-vous, que va devenir le pays sans M. Hincks? Il est le seul homme capable de conduire les affaires financières du pays." Eh bien! M. Hincks a été mis à la porte, et ceux qui le remplacent sont encore les seuls hommes possibles.<sup>181</sup>

Pour voir si les hommes actuellement au pouvoir sont les seuls possibles, il est bon d'envisager leur position et de voir quels sont leurs partisans et leurs supports. Ils en ont de bien des espèces différentes. En première ligne on voit les tories du Haut-Canada qui déclarent être prêts à donner au gouvernement actuel un appui général (a general support), mais qui n'ont pas suivi leurs chefs sur les mesures importantes, et qui sont encore opposés à la sécularisation des Réserves du Clergé, au Conseil Législatif Electif et à l'abolition de la Tenure Seigneuriale. Le ministère n'a donc, par cette alliance, gagné en faveur de ces grandes mesures que les quatre tories qui sont entrés au ministère. En second lieu se trouve M. Cauchon et ses quelques amis qui, eux aussi, approuvent la combinaison, mais sont opposés comme ils l'étaient auparavant à la sécularisation des Réserves et au Conseil Législatif



Electif. Quel peut donc être le motif de l'appui que ces messieurs donnent au ministère. Entendent-ils lui donner leur confiance sur les avis de motions, sur les motions d'ajournement et autres affaires de routine? On ne doit pas supposer que telle soit leur intention. Ils ne peuvent donc avoir d'autre objet en vue que de voir, au moyen de l'influence tory, les principes conservateurs dominer dans toutes les mesures qui sortiront du cabinet. Ils doivent aussi avoir une grande confiance dans la manière dont cette administration exercera le patronage dont elle est revêtue et distribuera les places. Mais l'administration peut-elle avec de pareils supports emporter ses mesures?

Certainement que non, si ces mesures sont préparées dans le sens libéral. Quelle sera la conséquence? c'est que l'administration pour n'avoir pas besoin du secours de l'opposition, et pour plaire à ses amis les conservateurs, fera des mesures conservatrices, et de fait nous aurons un gouvernement tory.

Il y a une troisième espèce d'hommes qui supportent la présente combinaison: ce sont les prétendus libéraux du Haut et du Bas-Canada. Cette dernière portion est la plus nombreuse; mais l'appui qu'elle donne à l'administration du Haut-Canada est tel que Sir Allan McNab et ses amis n'ont pas lieu de s'en glorifier. En effet tous les messieurs de ce parti qui ont parlé en faveur de la combinaison, ont dit qu'ils l'avaient vue avec regret, mais qu'ils l'acceptaient par nécessité. L'hon. Commissaire des Travaux Publics lui-même, (M. Chabot,) nous a déclaré avec une apparence de conviction et de sincérité qui ne permet pas de douter de la vérité de ces paroles: Que l'administration du Bas-Canada, en s'alliant avec Sir Allan McNab et ses amis, n'avait pas fait un mariage d'amour. Certes, cela se comprend; car il faut avouer que la position critique dans laquelle elle se trouvait ne lui permettait pas d'espérer pouvoir faire un mariage d'amour. Elle était là sans grand espoir de pouvoir jamais contracter aucune alliance quelconque, mais néanmoins, pour n'avoir rien à se reprocher, tendant la main au premier venu. Or il s'est rencontré sur le chemin un brave et galant chevalier qui a bien voulu la tirer de l'embarras dans lequel elle se trouvait, sauf à divorcer plus tard. Mais si ce n'est pas un mariage d'amour, comment l'appellera-t-on? Un mariage de convenance? Non, car jamais les convenances sociales et politiques n'ont été blessées plus que par cette alliance. Ce ne peut donc être qu'un mariage d'intérêt; mais d'intérêt seulement pour les parties contractantes et non pas pour le pays, qui sera obligé d'en payer les dépenses.

Maintenant, comment peut-on dire que cette alliance était nécessaire pour faire fonctionner la machine gouvernementale? Comment peut-on prétendre que les tories du Haut-Canada, qui ne sont qu'au nombre de 20 ou tout au plus 25, et qui par conséquent sont dans une minorité d'au moins 15 voix même dans leur section, étaient les seuls hommes entre les mains desquels les destinées du pays devaient être remises, surtout quand on considère qu'à part ceux qui sont entrés au pouvoir, aucun représentant de leur parti n'est en faveur des principales mesures ministérielles? Est-ce qu'il était impossible de trouver, parmi la grande majorité des libéraux du Haut-Canada, en dehors de ceux qui viennent de laisser le pouvoir des hommes qui auraient, sans sacrifice de principes, pu conduire les affaires du gouvernement? Non seulement c'était possible, mais c'est là ce qui devait se faire. C'est là ce qui se serait fait, si l'administration du Bas-Canada n'avait pas été composée d'hommes dont les tendances sont aussi conservatrices que celles de leurs nouveaux alliés. Il n'y a plus maintenant que deux partis dans les deux sections de la province. Les tories qui sont au pouvoir, et les vrais libéraux, les démocrates qui doivent désormais travailler avec unité d'action, force et énergie pour le triomphe des principes qui doivent régir l'état de notre société.

Une coalition de la nature de celle que nous avons actuellement sous les yeux, composée d'hommes rétrogrades qui se qualifient de conservateurs progressistes et de libéraux modérés, pourra bien obtenir une majorité temporaire, mais ne pourra pas être de longue durée. Et, pour qui veut dans ce moment jeter un coup d'oeil désintéressé sur la position des partis, il est facile de voir que cette coalition est le dernier effort des conservateurs des deux parties de la province, qui se sont réunis pour livrer un dernier combat aux idées démocratiques dont ils recevront avant longtemps le coup qui doit les faire disparaître pour toujours. Oui, le ministère actuel, comme tous les ministères de coalition, n'est que transitoire et sera suivi, il faut l'espérer, par le ministère le plus libéral, le plus progressiste et le plus démocratique qu'il y ait encore eu dans ce pays. Aux prochaines élections générales le peuple aura encore à prononcer une nouvelle sentence; et nul doute que ce sera pour condamner l'immoralité de la combinaison qui vient de s'accomplir.

En attendant, les vrais libéraux des deux sections de la province n'ont qu'une chose à faire; c'est de s'unir pour empêcher le mal de se faire, jusqu'à ce qu'ils puissent avoir les forces nécessaires pour faire le bien. La position prise par le Jeune Canada est forte, parce qu'elle est appuyée (*sic*) sur des principes. Ces principes ont déjà été expliqués devant cette chambre, tant pour ceux qui ne les connaissaient pas, que pour ceux qui faisaient semblant de les méconnaître pour nous en attribuer d'autres qui nous sont étrangers.

Les réformes que nous demandons, nous voulons les obtenir paisiblement, légalement et au moyen de la constitution. C'est en cela que nous différons des rouges de 1837, qui voulaient obtenir des réformes par la violence, le sang et le renversement de la Constitution. Non pas que je veuille donner une parole de blâme aux hommes de coeur et d'énergie qui en 1837 se sont levés avec courage pour secouer le joug d'un gouvernement tyrannique et arbitraire. A Dieu ne plaise! Mais je veux faire voir la mauvaise foi et l'inconsistance de ces hommes, dont plusieurs sont assis en ce moment devant moi de l'autre côté de la Chambre, qui en 1837 voulaient renouveler le gouvernement par la force des armes, et qui aujourd'hui nous appellent socialistes et destructeurs parce que nous demandons des réformes au moyen de notre Constitution.

L'hon. Secrétaire Provincial, l'hon. représentant de Maskinongé ont proclamé avec un air de triomphe que notre drapeau était déchiré et réduit en lambeaux, parce que, disent-ils, aux dernières élections, nous avons retranché de notre programme l'annexion et l'abolition des dîmes. Eh bien! M. l'orateur, voici ce qui en est. J'ai signé, ainsi que plusieurs de mes amis, le Manifeste qui n'était rien autre chose qu'un document respectueux au moyen duquel nous demandons à l'Angleterre la permission de nous séparer d'elle d'une manière paisible et amicale. Nous avons le droit de faire cette demande. Nous avons le droit de discuter la question de l'annexion ainsi que toute autre qui peut intéresser le pays et son avenir. Les honorables membres de l'autre côté de cette Chambre n'ont pas jugé à propos de nous donner leur opinion sur les destinées de notre pays; c'est que probablement ils ne s'occupent de l'avenir qu'en ce qui regarde leurs places de ministres. Ils ne voient rien au-delà de leurs portefeuilles.

Après que la question de l'annexion eût été discutée dans la presse et dans les assemblées publiques, et qu'il fut constaté que la grande majorité du pays y était opposée, nous avons cessé de l'agiter; nous avons respecté l'opinion de la majorité de nos compatriotes; et c'est ce que n'ont pas fait les honorables ministres qui ont gouverné et gouvernent encore contre les vœux de la majorité du peuple.

Quant aux dîmes, nous n'avons jamais demandé leur abolition. Nous avons dit, comme nous le disons encore, que le système actuel était injuste, en ce que la répartition ne fait pas également peser cette charge sur tout le monde. Personne ne conteste que les ministres de la religion doivent vivre d'une manière honorable et qui convienne à la dignité du caractère dont ils sont revêtus; mais il n'est pas juste que la classe agricole paie seule, surtout dans certaines paroisses où il y a des villages populeux qui donnent quelquefois plus d'ouvrage et de trouble aux curés que le reste de la paroisse: D'ailleurs la dîme est l'affaire de ceux qui la paient et c'est à eux à se plaindre s'ils désirent un changement.

Notre drapeau n'est donc pas en lambeaux. Il a été placé intact au sommet de la Montagne où il flotte glorieusement au vent de la liberté, qui, un jour ou l'autre, balayera les broussailles et autres embarras amoncelés dans la vallée par la négligence et la corruption du conservatisme. Et l'honorable membre pour Maskinongé peut être certain que si jamais ce drapeau est attaqué par lui ou par d'autres, il sera défendu avec force et vaillance.

Mais parlons donc un instant du drapeau des prétendus libéraux. Dans quel état est-il? Il n'est pas déchiré, car ce n'est qu'au combat qu'il aurait pu l'être, et il était placé entre les mains d'hommes qui n'avaient pas le courage de combattre pour le défendre; et ils l'ont livré tout entier à leurs ennemis. C'est maintenant Sir Allan McNab qui le porte. C'est un exemple qui portera ses fruits. Le parti du progrès ne confiera plus de drapeau à de pareils hommes; il saura le mettre en de meilleures mains.

L'orateur répondit ensuite aux attaques faites par M. Cartier contre le parti démocratique, et dit que quand M. Cartier avait accusé les démocrates d'être opposés aux améliorations publiques et au progrès matériel, il savait bien qu'il disait faux, et que dans plusieurs circonstances ses amis avaient bien su s'adresser aux rouges pour avoir leur influence en faveur de certaines améliorations publiques,—influence qu'ils avaient donné chaque fois qu'ils en avaient eu l'occasion. Puis quant aux plaintes faites par M. Drummond que le ministère n'avait été battu que par les accusations de corruption qui avaient été portées contre lui, il devait en blâmer ses nouveaux collègues, ceux avec qui il s'était allié; car ils étaient les premiers qui, en Chambre, dans le mois de juin dernier, avaient accusé ouvertement les ministres d'être corrompus. D'ailleurs il ne devait pas parler des accusations portées contre les ministres aux dernières élections; car leurs amis avaient eu recours à des accusations fausses et calomniatrices contre leurs adversaires; et lui, M. Papin, en parlait avec connaissance de cause, car il avait été dans son comté, en lutte aux accusations les plus fausses, les plus injurieuses et les plus propres à détruire son caractère et sa réputation, et cela de la part des amis du ministère. Depuis son élection même des journaux salariés par le gouvernement avaient continué de lui jeter l'outrage à la figure, au moyen de lettres injurieuses dont personne ne voulait prendre la responsabilité, et que les journaux mêmes qui les publiaient avouaient avoir été ramassées dans les rues.

L'orateur, en terminant, dit qu'il avait exprimé ses vues d'une manière sincère; qu'il espérait n'avoir offensé personne, que s'il l'avait fait c'était involontairement; car il avait tellement pris la résolution de ne rien dire d'offensant à qui que ce soit, qu'il n'avait pas voulu répondre aux insultes qui lui avaient été lancées par les deux entrepreneurs du gouvernement, MM. Labelle et Masson. Et il considérait que de pareilles injures n'étaient propres qu'à rabaisser la dignité de la chambre et à compromettre ceux qui les disaient et ceux dont ils étaient les instrumens.<sup>182</sup>



MR. COM. PUB. WORKS CHABOT lui demanda ... comme M. Papin allait s'asseoir ... s'il avait voulu dire qu'il y avait eu de la corruption dans toutes les élections du district de Québec, et sur quoi il se fondait par (sic) faire cet avancé; et disant qu'il désirait connaître quels étaient les faits à sa connaissance.<sup>183</sup>

MR. PAPIN lui répondit: Je n'ai pas dit que la corruption avait été employée dans tous les comtés, mais dans plusieurs comtés du district de Québec.

Comme de raison, ces faits ne sont pas à ma connaissance personnelle, parce que je n'étais pas sur les lieux; mais je les ai appris par la rumeur publique; et puisque l'hon. commissaire des travaux publics désire avoir des détails, je lui dirai que, depuis mon arrivée à Québec, j'ai appris par des personnes résidant dans cette cité et amies du ministère, que l'on avait vu, durant la dernière élection à Québec, l'hon. M. Chabot lui-même sortir de la banque dans laquelle étaient déposés les argens du gouvernement, ayant des rouleaux considérables d'argent dans les mains et les distribuant publiquement aux électeurs.<sup>184</sup>

MR. COM. PUB. WORKS CHABOT demanda alors à M. Papin s'il croyait à la vérité de ces rapports.<sup>185</sup>

MR. PAPIN répondit qu'il n'était pas obligé de lui rendre compte de ses pensées et de ses croyances, mais qu'il désirait bien savoir ce que M. Chabot lui-même en pensait; mais ce dernier ne fit aucune réponse.<sup>186</sup>

(78)

*And the Question being put on the Amendment; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Cooke, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Dufresne, Ferrie, Guévremont, Hartman, John, Laberge, Lumsden, John S. Macdonald, Mackenzie, McKerlie, Marchildon, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Valois, and Wright.--(28.)*

(78-79)

NAYS.

*Messieurs Aikins, Bell, Bellingham, Biggar, Blanchet, Bowes, Burton, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Chisholm, Church, Clarke, Crysler, Jean B. Daoust, Desaulniers, Dionne, Egan, Felton, Ferres, Fortier, Fournier, Gill, Gould, Labelle, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, McCann, Masson, Matheson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Angus Morrison, Munro, Murney, Niles, Patrick, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Powell, Rhodes, Robinson, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Stevenson, Taché, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, and Whitney.--(58.)*

*So it passed in the Negative.*

(79)

*The Question being then put on the seventh paragraph; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Aikins, Alleyn, Bell, Bellingham, Biggar, Blanchet, Bowes, Burton, Cameron, Cartier, Chabot, Chapais, Chauveau, Chisholm, Church, Clarke, Crysler, Jean B. Daoust, Delong, Desaulniers, Dionne, Egan, Felton, Ferres, Fortier, Fournier, Gill, Gould, Labelle, Langton, Laporte, Lemieux, Loranger, McCann, Masson, Matheson, Meagher, Mongenais, Morin, Angus Morrison, Munro, Murney, Niles, Patrick, Polette, Poulin, Pouliot, Powell, Rhodes, Robinson, Roblin, Solicitor*

General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Somerville, Southwick, Stevenson, Taché, Thibaudeau, Turcotte, and Whitney.--(62.)

NAYS.

Messieurs Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Cooke, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Fufresne, Ferrie, Frazer, Guévremont, Hartman, Jobin, Laberge, Lumsden, John S. Macdonald, Mackenzie, McKerlie, Marchildon, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Sanborn, Satcherd, Valois, and Wright.--(29.)

*So it was resolved in the Affirmative.*

MR. MACKENZIE announced his intention not to vote for any supplies so long as there was a government over the country in which he had no confidence.<sup>187</sup>

[MR. LARWILL moved:] "That all the words after the word 'That in the 12th paragraph be struck out, and the following words be inserted in lieu thereof; 'This house will gladly show a liberal spirit and friendly disposition towards the United States, for their generous conduct in legislating upon this matter (Reciprocity;) and that in proof of such disposition on their part, the Provincial Legislature will hereafter exact from negro immigrants a poll tax equal in amount to that now imposed upon other foreigners--will not incorporate any associations for the special benefit of men of color as a class, and will discourage the promotion of any institution the object and end whereof would be a junction with the abolitionists of the Northern States, to bring about a severance of the American Union.'"<sup>188</sup>

Mr. Speaker,

As it seems to be anticipated that every Member should avail himself of the present opportunity to express his views upon matters and things in general without any reference to the Speech from the throne. It may be supposed that the member for Kent will not be behind others in so doing. Some Gentlemen have referred to the gigantic war, now raging in Europe. Others have given us reminiscences connected with the last rebellion; while others again have dealt in mutual criminations--each in his turn seeming to require material for that greatest of all purposes--the making of a speech. Now, however clever a man may be, he cannot think of everything, and it so happened upon the present occasion, gentlemen had intirely (sic) forgotten three great measures,--The one was the union of the Provinces--A second, a prohibitory liquor law, but the most important of all in his (Mr. L's) opinion was the subject of Negro immigration to this Colony.

In respect to the first question, an union of the Provinces, he had been disappointed in not seeing some allusion to the project in the speech from the Throne. The Press had freely discussed the propriety of such an union. The country was prepared for the announcement. A distinguished Nobleman in the British Parliament had recently spoken of it, as an event neither improbable [n]or distant, its merits had also been canvassed in other British North American Provinces, and he (Mr. L.) thought it was high time the Canadian Parliament took the matter into their serious consideration. There were interests connected therewith which required much deliberation, and the sooner it was taken in hand the better he believed it would be for the Country.

The cause of Temperance was another subject to which no Hon. Member had alluded. Had it no advocates in this house; What were the Champions of the Maine Liquor Law about? Were they asleep; that they had not pointed out the absence of all reference to this matter in the Speech from the Throne? The propriety of enacting a prohibitory Liquor Law had been publicly discussed before large and respectsve (sic) audiences (sic). It had been agitated from

one end of the Province to the other, and it is a question which at least upon an occasion like the present deserved a passing notice from its friends.

With respect to the combinations that had taken place, they were quite natural. The public mind had been prepared for some such change. Some of the reform journals had for months past advocated such an amalgamation, why then express astonishment? It had been difficult for the past two years to distinguish parties by any particular principle. The planks and platforms of the Reformers had been shattered and scattered to the four winds of Heaven. At the same time differences (sic) of opinion had occurred amongst the Conservatives, more particularly with regard to the secularization of the Clergy Reserves. Old lines of demarkation had been demolished, new and important questions had arisen, springing out of a new relation of things, both Imperial and Colonial. He thought the Hon. Inspector General deserved well of his country as did also the gallant Knight, they had made a sacrifice to patriotism. With respect to his (Mr. L['s']) position, he felt inclined to support the present Ministry, but would never vote for either the secularization of the reserves or for an elective Legislative Council. With regard to the charges preferred against the Hon. Inspector General, he was no apologist for wrong doings. There was no law to prevent that Hon Gentleman doing what he had, and neither the logic nor the eloquence of the opposition had convinced him that they if placed in similar circumstances would not have acted the same part. We had been taught a lesson, it was to be hoped we would be benefitted by it and pass laws which would prevent such occurrences in future.

Mr. Speaker I have proposed an amendment to the address. It is one which I deem appropriate to the occasion. It seems to be just what our government would desire, and I am confident it will meet the approval of every patriotic citizen of the United States. Of course the members of the late ministry will support it, and the Clear Grits I may depend upon, from the fact that the amendment is founded upon "the well understood wishes of the people," as expressed by resolutions passed at legally constituted meetings, by numerous petitions from County and Township Councils, as also by large bodies of the community. It was said the other evening by the Hon. Inspector General, that many of the amendments proposed to the Address were quite out of place, and members seemed to imagine that the Speech from the Throne should dilate upon everything under the Moon. Now, if the Hon. Inspector General intended to include his (Mr. L's.) amendment in the number, he could only say that it was the Hon Gentlemen's own fault. It was the contempt with which that Hon. Gentleman and his colleagues had treated the petitions and remonstrances of the inhabitants of the Western District, the present counties of Essex, Kent and Lambton. Where was the response to those petitions? They had never been replied to. They had been thrown under the table, and swept out of the House like so much rubbish--even those whose duty it was to have been the guardians and supporters of those petitions proved false to their trust. Both the Hon Malcolm Cameron, and the late Member for Kent had misrepresented their Constituents. For his part he looked upon the great influx of Negroes into this Province as a great and growing evil. He thought it was impolitic in any of the British American Provinces, to encourage colored settlements. It was our policy to settle the country with the most industrious, religious, moral and civilized people we could obtain. Of these, enough could be had from Europe, chiefly from the sister Isles, our own kith and kin, who were to be preferred. Again it was impolitic, from the fact that many states in the American Union are slave-holding states--that the question of the freedom of these slaves was one, which threatened a most



sanguinary war, and our own peace is jeopardized by such negro settlements. Independent of which, they give encouragement to absconding slaves, to facilitate their escape to Canada, thereby engendering bad feelings between the two countries. It is also impracticable, the negro can never enjoy in Canada what the Imperial law entitles him to--Equality. It is a deceit and the scorn and contempt he is treated with every day, by both the government and the people, prove it. It is prejudicial to the interest of the negro himself. The climate is against him, prejudice is against him, and was it not for crimes committed, or the fear of being sold again into slavery, they would all return to the south; in other words let slavery be abolished in the States and there would soon be very few negroes in Canada. They have no partiality for either Canadians or their country, but supposing they had, shall we not consult over our own interests before theirs? With us it is a question of National Policy. It has nothing to do with the subject of slavery--many would link it with that matter, by way of obtaining sympathy. Many might say it was unbecoming in a British Legislature, to enunciate such ideas but he (Mr. L.) believed that it was our duty to sustain our own particular interests in preference even to Imperial. We wished to rank among the nations of the earth, but not as a nation of mongrels. The sister provinces would spurn an alliance with us under such circumstances, and justly too. We possess a ... beautiful tract of fertile country, most advantageously situated for commerce, surrounded by vast oceans of water, with a soil well adapted for every agricultural purpose, with large property of the choicest wood and a climate congenial to our nature, from the bosom of this country we gather in abundance every necessary of life, with many of its luxuries and the question we have to decide is, shall we give this country to a poor degraded tribe of Negro Slaves (we had nothing to do with the causes of their degradation) or keep it for our children? Shall we see the best portion of our country, our cornfields and gardens taken from us by strangers. Was it for this we fought, bled and conquered. Did we ever know of a nation or people so reckless of the goods or blessings of life, they would not guard them? Have not all nations ever watched with the utmost jealousy, the integrity of their soil--and shall Canadians give away their lives and fig-trees! Shall we in our youth give symptoms of premature old age, and see our lands taken from us, without a struggle. Mr. L. concludeed (sic) by asking the Hon. Member for Lambton to second his amendment.<sup>189</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND ... suggested that to impose a poll-tax on negroes would be levying black-mail<sup>190</sup>.

MR. BROWN ... protested against its being supposed that the mass of the people of Kent and Lambton sympathized in such a movement.<sup>191</sup>

This amendment fell through for the want of a seconder<sup>192</sup>.

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*Then the subsequent paragraphs being again read, were agreed to.*

*Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to thank His Excellency for his Speech pronounced from the Throne at the opening of the present Session:*

*That we thank His Excellency for the satisfaction expressed by him at meeting the Legislature, and that we believe, with His Excellency, that the increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has*

hitherto existed for the due Representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province:

To assure His Excellency that we will give our best consideration to the

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subjects of great magnitude and importance which will necessarily come under our consideration during the Session which is now commencing:

That we, in view of the two Acts which the Imperial Parliament, advancing with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed, feel the grave responsibilities thereby imposed on the Canadian Legislature:

That as to the one of these Acts which empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council, although the substitution of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown in the appointment of Members of that body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience, as Parliamentary Government and Ministerial Responsibility in the British sense of the term are for the most part unknown to the Constitution of Countries where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers, we think that in order to give to that important Branch of the Legislature the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some change in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required; and we trust that the difficulties to which His Excellency has referred will be surmounted by our endeavours, and by the patriotism of the Members of that Honorable Body:

That the other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province, we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able, without difficulty, to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction:

That the condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interest both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada, having to look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighbouring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals:

That we will consider the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions of Lower Canada, in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which since its introduction has contributed so materially to the prosperity of Upper Canada; and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. The other subjects of importance upon which measures may be submitted for our deliberation, will be also attentively considered:

That the Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, when laid before us, will receive our best attention, and that His Excellency may rely on our readiness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service:

That our attention will be called to the prosperous condition of the Revenue as affording an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect Raw Materials employed in Ship-building and other branches of manufac-

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ture within the Province, and to the reduction of others, to which Articles entering largely into the consumption of the People are now subject:

That we will be glad to receive Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's Subjects in British North America on the one hand, and of the Citizens of the United States on the other, and we will consider the propriety of amending the Act passed in eighteen hundred and forty-nine, for the free admission into Canada of certain Articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty:

That we learn with satisfaction that the Government and Congress of the United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and that we are disposed to meet them by a corresponding spirit:

That it is our hope that the removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada into the markets of the United States, will have a tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province.

Sur motion de MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN, 193

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Resolved, That the said Resolution be referred to a Select Committee, composed of the Honorable Mr. Morin, Mr. Laranger (sic) and Mr. Sidney Smith, to prepare and report the draught of an Address in answer to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor General to both Houses of the Legislature, in conformity to the said Resolution.

The Honorable Mr. Morin reported from the Select Committee appointed to draw up an Address to His Excellency the Governor General, That they had drawn up an Address accordingly; and the same was read, as followeth:

To His Excellency the Right Honorable James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for your gracious Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present Session.

We thank Your Excellency for the satisfaction you have been pleased to express at meeting the Legislature, and believe with Your Excellency that the increase in the Members of the Legislative Assembly which has taken place under the Statute which came into operation for the first time on the occasion of the recent General Election, will give additional weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and afford more ample security than has hitherto



existed for the due Representation in Parliament of all interests in the Province.

We assure Your Excellency that we will give our best consideration to the subjects of great magnitude and importance which will necessarily come under our consideration during the Session which is now commencing.

In view of the two Acts which the Imperial Parliament, advancing with accelerated speed in the course of liberal Colonial Policy which it has followed of late years, has recently passed, we feel the grave responsibilities thereby imposed on the Canadian Legislature.

As regards one of these Acts which empowers the Canadian Parliament to alter the Constitution of the Legislative Council, although the substitution of the principle of popular election for that of nomination by the Crown in the appointment of Members of that body, is obviously a task of considerable difficulty, in the execution of which little aid can be derived from experience,

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inasmuch as Parliamentary Government and Ministerial Responsibility in the British sense of the term, are for the most part unknown to the Constitution of Countries where the Legislative Bodies consist of two Elective Chambers, we think that in order to give to that important Branch of the Legislature the weight and influence which it is most desirable that it should possess, some change in its Constitution seems to be imperatively required; and we trust that the difficulties to which Your Excellency has referred will be surmounted by our endeavours, and by the patriotism of the Members of that Honorable Body.

The other Act of the Imperial Parliament having removed the restrictions which had for some time past prevented the Provincial Legislature from dealing with the Clergy Reserves, and as from an early period in the history of Upper Canada, this provision which was originally intended for the support of the Protestant Faith, has been a source of discord and agitation in that section of the Province, we consider it most desirable in the interest of religion and social harmony, that a final and conclusive adjustment of this long pending controversy should take place without delay. The subject was distinctly brought before the People of the Province at the late Election, and their opinion upon it expressed in no equivocal manner. We hope to be able without difficulty to agree upon a measure for accomplishing this object which will give general satisfaction.

The condition of properties held under the Seigniorial Tenure will engage our attention at an early period, with a view to the determination of questions affecting them which cannot be kept in suspense without detriment to the interests both of Seigniors and Censitaires. We are aware of the importance of approaching this subject with caution, and with a due regard to the legal and equitable claims of all parties interested, security of property being an indispensable condition to economical progress, and persons who invest their funds in property in Canada having to look to the justice and moderation of the Legislature for that protection which in a neighbouring Country is afforded by judicial tribunals.

We will consider the expediency of assimilating the Municipal Institutions of Lower Canada, in so far as circumstances will permit, to the system which since its introduction has contributed so materially to the prosperity of Upper Canada; and also of extending to the former section of the Province the advantages of the Municipal Loan Fund Act. The other subjects of importance upon which measures may be submitted for our deliberation will be also attentively considered.

The Public Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, when laid before us, will receive our best attention, and Your Excellency may rely on our readiness to make the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service.

Our attention will be called to the prosperous condition of the Revenue as affording an opportunity of which Parliament may properly avail itself to revise the existing Tariff, with a view to the removal of such Duties as affect Raw Materials employed in Ship-building and other branches of manufacture within the Province, and to the reduction of others, to which Articles entering largely into the consumption of the People are now subject.

We shall be glad to receive Copy of a Treaty which has been concluded between Her Majesty and the Government of the United States, for the adjustment of various questions affecting the mutual interests of Her Majesty's Subjects in British North America on the one hand, and of the Citizens of the United States on the other; and we will consider the propriety of amending the Act passed in eighteen hundred and forty-nine, for the free admission into Canada of certain Articles of the growth or production of the United States, so as to bring it into harmony with the provisions of this Treaty.

We learn with satisfaction that the Government and Congress of the

(83)

United States have evinced a liberal and friendly disposition in dealing with this subject, and we are disposed to meet them by a corresponding spirit.

It is our hope that the removal of Duties on the importation of the natural products of Canada, into the markets of the United States, will have a tendency to perpetuate and extend the prosperity which has prevailed of late to so remarkable a degree in this Province.

The said Address being read a second time, was agreed to.

Ordered, That the said Address be engrossed.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by the whole House.

Ordered, That such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province do wait upon His Excellency the Governor General to know His Excellency's pleasure when he will be attended by this House with its Address.

Resolved, That this House will, at the rising of the House this day, adjourn until To-morrow at four o'clock in the afternoon.

The Order of the day for the second reading of the Bill to compel the attendance of Witnesses upon the Superior Courts in any part of Canada, being read;

Ordered, That the said Order of the day be postponed until To-morrow.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Morin,

The House adjourned. 194

APPENDIX: 19 SEPTEMBER/20 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION: FOR COMMITTEE TO PREPARE BILL ON VOTE BY BALLOT.]

[MR. MACKENZIE gave] notice that on this day week ... [he] will move the House, "That a Special Committee of seven Members be appointed, with instructions to prepare and report to the House a Bill for the introduction of the principle of voting by Ballot in all City, Town and County Elections of the Legislative Assembly in Upper Canada and in Lower Canada,--the said Bill to be in force and take effect whenever the Elective Franchise shall be exercised in Counties by Classes other than the freeholders or persons holding in fief, or en roture; and the principle of the Ballot to be also applicable to the elections of Legislative Councillors whenever the Legislative Council, or any part thereof, shall be chosen by the popular vote."<sup>195</sup>

[QUESTION AND ANSWER RE: PAYMENT OF PETIT JURORS IN LOWER CANADA.]

MR. C. DAOUST, of Beauharnois, [asked a question.]<sup>196</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND ... announced, on behalf of Ministers, that the Municipalities Bill, which they intend to submit to Parliament, will contain a provision giving to Municipalities the power to raise funds to pay jurors, in the same manner as it is done in the Upper Province.<sup>197</sup>



FOOTNOTES: 19 SEPTEMBER/20 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
2. The House met at the usual hour on Tuesday, 19 September 1854. However, the debate continued through until the afternoon of Wednesday, 20 September 1854. (Vide footnote 194). As there is no clear break in the sitting, we have edited the debate for the two days together. (Vide footnote 176).

The debate on the Address that follows the sixth paragraph concerning the Clergy Reserves is not reported extensively. After the report of Mr. Merritt's speech (Vide footnote 175), the MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854, states: "The debate continued all night but the physical capacities of the Reporters did not enable them to follow it." The reporter for the MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 September 1854, comments: "After sitting up all night, I do not feel inclined to write now." Furthermore, LE PAYS, a newspaper known to support the "Rouges", in its edition of 23 September 1854, reports: "Les ministres et leurs amis se souviendront longtemps des coups vigoureux que leur a portés le côté gauche de la Chambre. De ce côté, les principaux orateurs ont été MM. Dorion, de Montréal, Brown, McKenzie, McDonald, de Glengary, Hartman, Laberge, Papin et Daoust, de Beauharnais.

De l'autre côté MM. Drummond, Chauveau, Chabot, Cartier, Loranger et Turcotte ont tour-à-tour pris la parole." It is clear that a number of members who spoke, notably Messrs. Chauveau, Loranger and Turcotte, are not reported.

3. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
4. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
5. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
6. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
7. IBID.
8. IBID.
9. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
10. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
11. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
12. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
13. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
14. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
15. IBID.
16. IBID.
17. IBID.
18. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
19. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
20. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
21. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
22. IBID.
23. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
24. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
25. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
26. IBID.
27. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
28. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
29. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
30. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.

31. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
32. IBID.
33. IBID.
34. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
35. IBID.
36. IBID.
37. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
38. IBID.
39. IBID.
40. IBID.
41. IBID.
42. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
43. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
44. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
45. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
46. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
47. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
48. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
49. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
50. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
51. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
52. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
53. IBID.
54. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
55. GLOBE, 25 September 1854, which promised, "A full report of his speech will appear hereafter." We have not been able to find a GLOBE report of the speech.
56. MORNING CHRONICLE, 22 September 1854.
57. IBID.
58. IBID.
59. IBID.
60. IBID.
61. IBID.
62. IBID.
63. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
64. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
65. PILOT, 23 September 1854.
66. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
67. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
68. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
69. PILOT, 23 September 1854.
70. GLOBE, 25 September 1854. LA MINERVE, 7 October 1854, reports Mr. Cartier's speech at length, and remarks, "Ce discours n'a pas été rapporté au complet dans la presse, mais nous en trouvons une analyse dans des notes dont nous n'avons pu faire usage avant aujourd'hui." Since LA MINERVE is a frankly ministerial newspaper, it is likely that the notes it obtained were Mr. Cartier's own.
71. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
72. LA MINERVE, 7 October 1854.
73. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
74. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
75. LA MINERVE, 7 October 1854.
76. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.

77. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
78. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
79. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
80. LA MINERVE, 7 October 1854.
81. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
82. IBID.
83. IBID.
84. LA MINERVE, 7 October 1854.
85. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
86. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
87. IBID.
88. IBID.
89. LA MINERVE, 7 October 1854.
90. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
91. IBID.
92. IBID.
93. IBID.
94. IBID.
95. LA MINERVE, 7 October 1854.
96. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854. MONTREAL GAZETTE, 23 September 1854, states: "The Company had now 1,600 men employed, and it had expended 2½ millions of pounds since July, 1852."
97. LA MINERVE, 7 October 1854.
98. IBID.
99. IBID.
100. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
101. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
102. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
103. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
104. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
105. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
106. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
107. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
108. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
109. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
110. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
111. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
112. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
113. IBID.
114. IBID.
115. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
116. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
117. IBID.
118. IBID.
119. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
120. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
121. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
122. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
123. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
124. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
125. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
126. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
127. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.



128. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
129. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
130. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
131. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
132. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
133. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
134. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
135. GLOBE, 25 September 1854.
136. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
137. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
138. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
139. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
140. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
141. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
142. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
143. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
144. IBID.
145. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
146. IBID.
147. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
148. MACKENZIE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE, 29 September 1854. This and the next come from a "letter from the editor," which does not situate them with respect to speeches or proceedings in the debate, but says that Mr. Mackenzie urged the adjournment at 3 A.M. We know from the same source that the vote was taken on Mr. Hartman's amendment at 4 A.M., so it seems likely that this incident occurred just before Mr. Drummond's speech.
149. MACKENZIE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE, 29 September 1854.
150. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
151. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
152. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
153. IBID.
154. IBID.
155. IBID.
156. IBID.
157. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
158. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
159. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
160. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
161. IBID.
162. IBID.
163. IBID.
164. IBID.
165. IBID.
166. IBID.
167. IBID.
168. IBID.
169. IBID.
170. IBID.
171. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
172. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
173. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.
174. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
175. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854. This is the only report of Mr.

Merritt's speech, and the MORNING CHRONICLE does not report Mr. Merritt's motion to adjourn, but it seems more likely that he moved an adjournment before launching into a long speech, at what must have been a late hour, than that he moved an adjournment after finishing his speech.

176. Newspaper accounts of proceedings indicate this notice in the JOURNALS that the House had sat past midnight is misplaced. Mr. Merritt's motion for adjournment, which immediately precedes it in the JOURNALS, came between 3 and 4 in the morning.
177. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
178. According to MACKENZIE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE, 29 September 1854, "This vote was taken at about four in the morning." PERTH COURIER, 29 September 1854, noted, "In the ... division Mr. Hincks paired off with Mr. Galt."
179. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854.
180. LE PAYS, 23 September 1854. PORT HOPE GUIDE, 26 September 1854, claims that Mr. Papin moved the amendment on the Seigniorial Tenure paragraph.
181. LE PAYS, 26 September 1854. The ellipses represent illegible words. LE PAYS is the only newspaper to report Mr. Papin's speech. However both the PILOT, 20 September 1854, and the PERTH COURIER, 29 September 1854, state that the House adjourned at quarter to ten o'clock, and that "on meeting again Mr. Papin resumed his address." The MACKENZIE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE, 29 September 1854, in the "letter from the editor" indicates: "I [MR. MACKENZIE] seconded a motion made by Mr. Chisholm ... to begin our sittings at 10 in the forenoon, but the government opposed us."

Six or seven motions were made for adjournments between 3 and 10 in the morning, and all voted down but the last." The MONTREAL GAZETTE, 22 September 1854, reports: "There was at seven o'clock this morning, a motion put to adjourn till half-past ten. It was debated till ten, and then carried, so there was an intermission of half an hour." The GLOBE, 27 September 1854, reports: "At 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning the House took a recess for half an hour. After which the debate was once more resumed, and continued for an hour or two." Mr. Mackenzie's speech (footnote 187) is then reported by the GLOBE. It would appear that a lengthy debate on adjournment, which is not reported, interrupted Mr. Papin's speech. In addition, MACKENZIE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE, 29 September 1854, comments that at 9 a.m., "we are still talking, and the majority show no indications of taking a recess. About 50 members are present. They look rather fagged out; some snoring; some crowing like roosters; some sleeping on the floor; some sleeping in their seats; most of the speeches have been in French, mine excepted".

182. LE PAYS, 28 September 1854.
183. IBID.
184. IBID.
185. IBID.
186. IBID.
187. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
188. WESTERN PLANET, 11 October 1854.
189. WESTERN PLANET, 11 October 1854, notes: "Below we give the maiden Speech of Mr. Larwill, the member for this County, furnished us by our Quebec correspondent.... We looked in vain through our Montreal and Quebec exchanges--from which the reports are usually copied into the Country Journals--for an expression of opinion from Mr. Larwill on the several important matters, which came before the House; but a death-like silence seemed to us to have sealed his lips, while almost every other member, from Gaspé to Sandwich, had declared his policy, and explained his intended course."

190. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
191. IBID.
192. IBID.
193. LA MINERVE, 23 September 1854.
194. There is some disagreement as to the time the House adjourned. GLOBE, 27 September 1854, and LE PAYS, 23 September 1854, report that it adjourned at one p.m. PERTH COURIER, 29 September 1854, states that: "at half-past 1 o'clock, the answer to the Address, as originally proposed, was carried by a large majority." WESTERN PLANET, 4 October 1854, claims that: "The House continued in Session until Wednesday at 2½ o'clock P.M." WESTERN PLANET further comments: "You may suppose some of the members were hungry; but I can assure you upon the honor of a gentleman, none were dry. Every member in the House had a something to say."
195. MACKENZIE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE, 29 September 1854. The report is dated September 20.
196. MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT, 25 September 1854.
197. IBID.



THURSDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 1854.<sup>1</sup>

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THE following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion,--The Petition of the Champlain and St. Lawrence Railroad Company; the Petition of the Montreal Section of the Bar of Lower Canada; and the Petition of the Shipton Slate Company.

By Mr. Bureau,--The Petition of J.B. Bailey and others, of Plattsburg, in the State of New York, and Stockholders and Proprietors of the Plattsburg and Montreal Railroad.

By Mr. Chapais,--The Petition of the Corporation of the College of Ste. Anne de la Pocatière.

By Mr. McCann,--The Petition of Charles Waters and others, of the Village of Vancleeck Hill.

By Mr. Southwick,--The Petition of the Municipal Council of the County of Elgin; and the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Bayham.

By the Honorable Mr. Cameron,--The Petition of the Toronto Athenaeum; the ... Petition of Donald Cameron and others, of the Township of Thora, County of Ontario; and the Petition of the Commercial Bank of the Midland District.

By Mr. Rankin,--The Petition of A. Rankin, Esquire, and others.

By the Honorable John Sandfield Macdonald,--The Petition of William Power, Esquire, one of the Circuit Judges of Lower Canada; and the Petition of Matthew A. Hearn, of the City of Quebec.

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By Mr. Lunsden,--The Petition of John B. Warren and others, of the Village of Oshawa.

By Mr. Church,--The Petition of Joseph Leeming and others, of the Township of Oxford.

By Mr. Daly,--The Petition of John Macallister and others, of the Village of Nithburg, County of Perth.

By Mr. Bellingham,--The Petition of Edwin Pridham and others, of the Counties of Argenteuil and Ottawa, and others.

By Mr. Stevenson,--The Petition of James Pearson and others, of the Township of Hillier.

By Mr. Roblin,--The Petition of Nathan Fellows and others, of Earnesttown and Fredericksburg.

By Mr. Bell,--The Petition of James Shannon and others, of the Village of Ashton.

By Mr. Alleyn,--The Petition of Andrew Stuart, Esquire, and others of Quebec; and the Petition of the President and Members of the Quebec British and Canadian School Society.

By Mr. Papin,--The Petition of the Reverend M.J.E. Chévigny and others.

By Mr. Lemieux,--The Petition of the Quebec Friendly Society.

By Mr. Pouliot,--The Petition of John Dillon and others, of the Townships of East Frampton, Standon, and adjacent parts, County of Dorchester.

Pursuant to the Order of the day, the following Petitions were read:--

Of O. Boudreau and others, Pilots for and above the Harbour of Quebec; praying for certain amendments to the Laws regulating the duties and liabilities of Pilots, and their subjection to the Trinity House of Montreal.

Of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Toronto; praying for certain amendments to the Municipal Corporations Act.

Of Charles Jones and others, of the City of Toronto; praying for an Act of Incorporation as a Coal Company, to enable them to supply the said City with Coal.

Of the Provincial Insurance Company of the City of Toronto; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of the Catholic Institute of Toronto; praying that separate Schools may participate equally with Common Schools in any distribution which may be made of the Funds arising from the Clergy Reserves.

Of W.H. Ponton and others; praying for an Act of Incorporation under the name of the Murray Canal Company, for the construction of a Canal to connect the waters of Lake Ontario with the Bay of Quinté.

Of G.K. Foster and others, of the County of Sherbrooke; praying that the Townships composing the Electoral County of Sherbrooke may be separated from the Municipal County of Sherbrooke, and erected into a separate County for all Municipal and Registration purposes.

Of William Farwell, of the Township of Melbourne, in the County of Sherbrooke, in the Province of Canada, Yeoman; setting forth: That on the twenty-second day of July last, in the United Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska, the Petitioner was duly nominated and proposed as Member to represent the said United Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska in Parliament: That at the same time, Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion was also proposed and nominated to represent the said United Counties: That a Poll was ordered to be had on the thirty-first day of July and the first day of August last, to decide upon the Election and Return of a Member for the said United Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska: That afterwards, to wit: on or about the fifth day of August last, the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion was by the Returning Officer returned as elected for the said United Counties: That the Petitioner avers that the said Return, and all and every the proceedings had at the said Election and Return that

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relates to the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion are and were irregular, null and void, and that the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion should not have been returned as such Member, and that he now usurps and illegally and wrongfully holds and exercises the office of Member for the said United Counties in Parliament: That the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion procured himself so to be returned by fictitious and illegal votes, and by bribery and corruption, and by force and violence, and by preventing the voters of the said United Counties from recording their votes in favor of the Petitioner: That the Deputy Returning Officers were partial to the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion at the Polls, and acted illegally in recording the votes, and refused to protect the Petitioner and his agents thereat, and kept open the said Polls and recorded votes thereat after the Petitioner's agents had been forcibly expelled therefrom by the agents of the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion, and after the said Deputy Returning Officers had been duly required and called upon to close the said Polls, and to protect the agents of the Petitioner thereat: That the Petitioner was forcibly, violently, and illegally prevented from objecting to all, every, and any the votes which purport to have been duly recorded as legal votes for the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion at the Polls held on the said thirty-first day of July and the first day of August last, at Drummondville and Upton, and the Petitioner's agent and representative was violently expelled and detained from said Poll at Drummondville on the thirty-first day of July immediately after the said Poll was opened, and was so prevented from acting thereat either of the said two days: That the Poll for the Township of Grantham in said United Counties, was not an open Poll, and the Petitioner was not suffered to be represented thereat: That a large majority of the legal votes at the said Election was recorded in favor of the Petitioner: That the apparent majority of votes pretended to have been recorded in favor of the

said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion was composed of the pretended votes of parties not qualified to vote, and of parties who recorded their votes several times for the said Dorion at said Election, and of the names of fictitious parties, and of the names of parties recorded without their being present: That the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion was not at the time of said nomination and Election, and is not now qualified in respect to property to represent the said United Counties in Parliament: That the Petitioner is so qualified, and should have been returned as such Representative; and praying that the House will be pleased to make inquiry into the premises, and will consider, declare, and adjudge the said Return and Election of the said Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion to have been and to be null and void, and that he be deprived of all and every the rights, privileges and office of Representative and Member of and for the said United Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska, and that the Petitioner be declared to be the Member and Representative of the said United Counties, and alone entitled to hold and exercise the office, duties, and privileges thereof.

Of C. Lynde, Chairman, and L. Welsh, Secretary, on behalf of a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Whitby; praying for an Act of Incorporation under the name of the Town of Whitby.

Of Robert Simpson, of the Village and Parish of St. Andrews, alias Saint Andrews, in the County of Argenteuil, in the Province of Canada, Esquire, a qualified recognized Candidate for the Representation of the said County in Parliament now sitting; setting forth: That on the twenty-fourth day of July last, at St. Andrews, to wit: at the time and place of nomination for the Election of a Member to represent and serve the County of Argenteuil in the Parliament of this Province, in virtue of the Writ to that effect signed by His Excellency the Governor General of this Province, and tested in the City of Quebec, in this Province, on the twenty-third day of June last, the said Writ being then in the hands of Daniel DeHertel, Esquire, Registrar in the said County, the Returning Officer ordered and empowered to execute the same

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according to Law, the Petitioner was duly proposed by Michel Gauthier and Thomas Proulx, yeomen, electors qualified to that effect, and that the Petitioner was then and there duly nominated as a fit and proper person to represent and serve the said County as Member thereof in Parliament aforesaid, according to the requirements of the said Writ: That the shew of hands and the majority of electors then and there present, to wit: at the hustings, being in favor of the Petitioner, the said Returning Officer did then and there state, that Sydney Bellingham, Esquire, then and there proposed by Thomas Palliser, blacksmith, as a Candidate for the said Election, to wit: Sydney Bellingham, Esquire, now wrongfully assuming to represent the said County in Parliament aforesaid, demanded a Poll: That on the fourth day of August last, at St. Andrews aforesaid, the said Returning Officer did unjustly and illegally proclaim the said Sydney Bellingham as being duly elected Member to represent the said County as aforesaid: That the Petitioner then and there protested against the said proclamation of Election as appears by a Notarial Copy of Protest to be produced in due time, marked A: That the Petitioner complains of the said pretended Election of the said Sydney Bellingham, Esquire, made as aforesaid, under color of the Writ and proceedings aforesaid as being an undue Election, and of the pretended Return thereof by the said Returning Officer as being an undue Return; and also complains that no Return has been made according to the requisition of the said Writ, and also further complains of certain special matters hereinafter set forth, rendering null and void the pretended Election in question: That the grounds and reasons



of such complaints are as follow, to wit:--Firstly, Because the said Sydney Bellingham, Esquire, was not, either at the time of nomination aforesaid, or at the time of the pretended proclamation and Election aforesaid, legally or equitably seized as of freehold for his own use and benefit, of lands and tenements held in free and common soccage, or seized or possessed for his own use and benefit of lands and tenements held in fief or in roture within the Province of Canada, of the value of five hundred pounds of sterling money of Great Britain, over and above all rents, charges, mortgages and incumbrances charged upon and due and payable out of or affecting the same: Secondly, Because the Poll opened in and for the Township of Gore, in and of the said County, was not kept according to Law, nor in compliance with the requirements of the Writ aforesaid, nor at the proclamation aforesaid: Firstly, inasmuch as fifty-eight of the pretended names of pretended voters entered in the Poll Book or List, at and for the said Poll, to wit: the names specified in a paper writing, to be produced in due time, marked B, being as appears by the same List, the names of pretended voters, then resident and being landholders in Wentworth, to wit: in the separate Township of Wentworth, and not in the said Township of Gore: Secondly, inasmuch as sixty-three, to wit: those specified in a paper writing to be produced in due time in support thereof, marked C, of the pretended names of pretended voters at the said Poll, being as appears by the said List of parties alleged to be then residents, and being landholders in Mille Isles, and not in the said Township of Gore: and inasmuch as Mille Isles, wherever it may be, is not in the said Township of Gore, nor even in the said County of Argenteuil: Thirdly, inasmuch as the pretended votes specified in the paper marked C, copied from the said Poll List do not, and as the Petitioner believes never did, own real estate, nor ever reside in the said County: Fourthly, inasmuch as the pretended votes recorded in the said List specified in a paper to be produced in due time, marked D, are names of parties who were not even present at or near the said Poll at any time during the said two days polling: Fifthly, inasmuch as the pretended votes specified in the paper writing to be produced in due time, marked E, entered in the said Poll List are mere repetitions of names of parties, none of whom, excepting those mentioned in the paper writing also to be produced in due time, marked F, were present at the said Poll, and none of whom

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excepting those mentioned in the paper writing marked \_\_\_ could, as the Petitioner believes, have legally voted at the said Poll: Sixthly, inasmuch as three hundred and thirty-nine of the pretended votes entered in the said List, namely, all those specified in the paper writing to be produced in due time in support hereof, marked G, are not the names of votes of qualified electors voting at the said Poll: Thirdly, Because three hundred and thirty-nine of the pretended votes recorded in the said Poll List in and for the Township of Gore aforesaid, to wit: those specified in a paper, marked H, to be produced in due time in support thereof, are not of parties qualified to vote at the said Poll or for the said Election, all and each of them not being at the time of the pretended giving of the said pretended votes, respectively possessed for their or his own use and benefit as proprietor or proprietors, respectively, by virtue of some legal title vesting such property in him or them respectively, either in fee simple or in freehold under the tenure of free and common soccage, or in fief or in roture, or in franc aleu, or by virtue of a certificate derived under the authority of the Government and Council of the late Province of Quebec, or by virtue of any Act or Acts of the Legislature of either of the late Province of Upper Canada, or of the Legislature of Canada, of lands and tenements

lying and being in the said County of Argenteuil, and being of the clear yearly value of forty-four shillings and five pence and one farthing currency, or upwards, over and above all annual rents, whether ground rents (rentes foncières) or constituted rents (rentes constituées) or any other rents and charges payable out of or in respect of the same, and none of the said pretended voters being at the time in question in any way by Law entitled to vote at the said Poll: That three hundred and forty-five of the pretended votes entered in the said List for the Gore, were entered after the Petitioner's representative thereat had been driven from the said Poll by threats and danger, and the said three hundred and forty-five votes in question were entered after eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the second day of polling: Fourthly, Because the pretended votes specified in the paper, marked I, to be produced in support hereof in due time, and recorded in the Poll List for Saint Jerusalem, in the said County, are illegal, null and void, being of parties not possessed of property to qualify them for such voting: Fifthly, Because the said Sydney Bellingham, being then a Candidate as aforesaid, did directly employ means of corruption by giving at or about the time of these pretended Elections in the said County, a sum of money, to wit: fifteen pounds to Patrick Kelly, of Grenville, in said County, innkeeper; twenty-five pounds to Thomas Palliser, of Lachute, in said County, blacksmith; to Colin Arnot, innkeeper, and William Strong, both of the Gore aforesaid, each fifteen pounds; and did also give promise of employment to Louis Sarazin, of St. Hermas, in the said County, yeoman, all the said parties being electors: Sixthly, Because the said Sydney Bellingham, being a Candidate as aforesaid, did at the said Election, with intent to corrupt and bribe Archibald McVicar, of St. Andrews, aforesaid, carpenter; David Sweeny, of Chatham, in the said County, yeoman; Robert Farley, of the same place, yeoman, and others, electors at the said Election, indirectly, by his duly authorized agents and otherwise, against Law, give and also promise employment, money and reward to the said McVicar, Sweeny, Farley, and others to be named in due time: Seventhly, Because the said Sydney Bellingham, Esquire, then being a Candidate as aforesaid, at the said Election, to wit: at the closing of the Poll at St. Hermas, hereinafter mentioned, and also at the time of closing the Poll at Saint Placide, and also at the polling and Polls respectively at Chatham and Grenville, in the said County, with the intent to keep back electors from voting at the said Polls for the Petitioner, did indirectly and by his authorized agents and others, and more especially by Allan Carmichael, and Thomas Sutton also a Railway sub-contractor, and by parties non-electors, armed with fire arms and bludgeons, threaten several electors, to wit: Hyacinthe Berthiaume, Jacques Daoust, and Joseph Lemaire, at St. Hermas, in said County, and also certain other electors in Chatham, Grenville and

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St. Andrews to be named in due time, with loss of advantage if they should vote for the Petitioner: Eighthly, Because the said Sydney Bellingham then being Candidate as aforesaid, with intent to promote his Election as aforesaid, did provide and furnish entertainment at his expense to meetings of electors assembled at Grenville, Chatham, St. Andrews, Lachute, in the Parish of St. Jerusalem, Gore, St. Hermas, and St. Placide, in the said County, to wit: at or near the Polls for the said Election, for the purpose of promoting his said Election during the polling days for the same: Ninthly, Because certain other persons with intent to promote the Election in question of the said Sydney Bellingham, to wit: Patrick Kelly and Charles Riley, innkeepers, of Grenville, at Grenville aforesaid, Archibald McDonald, of the Parish of St. Andrews, civil engineer, Joseph Palliser, of the same place, blacksmith, at

St. Andrews aforesaid, Colin Arnot, of the Township of Gore, innkeeper, at the Gore aforesaid, Alvah Burch, of Lachute aforesaid, at Lachute, Joseph Desjardins, of St. Hermas aforesaid, at St. Hermas, Paul Labelle, of St. Placide aforesaid, at St. Placide, all in the said County, did during the polling days for the said Election, at the said respective places, provide and furnish entertainment at the said Sydney Bellingham's expense, and because the said Sydney Bellingham did engage to pay for such entertainment: Tenthly, Because the Petitioner had the majority of the total number of votes, to wit: legal votes polled for, at the said Election: Eleventhly, Because the Petitioner had a very large majority, to wit: about one hundred of the legal votes recorded at the said polling, and ought in justice to have been proclaimed elected: That the Petitioner without waiver of any of the above grounds, but reserving all benefit thereof for other grounds against the said Election, saith, that the said pretended Election of the said Sydney Bellingham is wholly null and void in Law, and for reasons in support thereof, he saith: Twelfthly, Because the proclamation for the said pretended Election was not posted up in each Parish and Township, nor in fact in any place in the said County of Argenteuil, within eight clear days before the nomination day for the said Election, nor at the time and in the manner required by Law: Thirteenthly, Because no Poll was opened and kept in any of the Townships of Harrington, Howard, Arundel, Montcalm, Wolfe, Salaberry, and Grandisson, the said Townships being wholly within and constituting part of the said Electoral County of Argenteuil: Fourteenthly, Because, although a Poll had been demanded and granted as aforesaid, and one was by the proclamation for the Election in question appointed to be opened and kept in the Parish of Saint Hermas, for the said Election, on the thirty-first day of July and first day of August last, between the hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon and five in the afternoon of each of the said days, for taking and recording the votes of the electors according to Law in the said Parish for the said Election, no such Poll was opened and kept, the Deputy Returning Officer appointed thereto and acting thereat as such, to wit, Jean George Lebel, of the said Parish of St. Hermas, Notary Public, having against the remonstrances of the Petitioner, illegally and without reasonable cause, and with favor to the said Sydney Bellingham, at the instance of one Allan Carmichael, a Railway sub-contractor, assuming and recognized by the said Deputy Returning Officer to be the duly authorized agent of the said Sydney Bellingham, Esquire, closed the said Poll, at or about ten minutes past one o'clock in the afternoon of the second day of the said polling, and then and thence took and carried away the Poll Book and List of the said Poll out of the said Parish long before five of the clock in the afternoon of the said second day of polling, whereby the Petitioner was deprived of his right to poll and have enregistered according to Law, several, to wit: upwards of, or about, two hundred votes of electors at the said Poll, who the Petitioner believes would have voted in the Petitioner's favor, had such Poll been held according to Law: That the Poll Clerk at the said Poll, to wit, Ollier, the father-in-law of the said Jean George Lebel, and who, the Petitioner believes, left the duties of Poll Clerk thereat to be performed by the said

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Lebel, aided and was a party to the said illegal closing, and on the refusal and neglect of the said Lebel to perform his duty as Returning Officer in this respect as aforesaid, refused and neglected to act as Deputy Returning Officer: Fifteenthly, Because the Poll demanded, granted and appointed as aforesaid in and for the Parish of St. Placide, in the said County, was not opened and kept as required by Law, inasmuch as the Deputy Returning Officer therefor and



thereat, to wit: Alfred T. Gibeau, of the said Parish, Notary Public, did illegally and without reasonable cause, and with favor to the said Sydney Bellingham, Esquire, close the said Poll at or before four o'clock in the afternoon of the said second day of polling, thereby depriving the Petitioner of about fifty votes at the said Poll, the reason alleged by the said Deputy Returning Officer being, that by his watch it was five o'clock; that the agent of the Petitioner then and there protested verbally against the said illegal closing; that the Poll Clerk at the said Poll refused and neglected then and there to perform the duties of the said Deputy Returning Officer on his refusal and neglect, and was a party to, and abetting the said illegal closing; and praying that the Election in question of the said Sydney Bellingham, on the first eleven grounds, and on each of them, be declared by the House to be null and void, and that the House will be pleased to adjudge and declare the Petitioner to be duly elected under the aforesaid Writ to represent the said County of Argenteuil in the House of Legislative Assembly in the present Parliament, and further, that the House will be pleased to order and cause to be done what may be required by Law to this effect; and in the event that the foregoing prayer on the first eleven grounds aforesaid not being accorded, praying that for all and each of the said twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth grounds, the pretended Election be declared null and void in Law, and that the House will be pleased to order a Writ to issue forthwith for the Election of a Member to represent and serve the said County in the Legislative Assembly in the present Parliament of this Province, and also that the House will be pleased to declare, order, and do what law and justice may require in the premises, and moreover that the said Sydney Bellingham and all whosoever may contest this Petition or defend the said pretended Election of the said Sydney Bellingham, be ordered and adjudged and condemned to pay the just costs of this Petition and of supporting the same.

Of the Reverend F. Cholette and others, of the Parish of St. Polycarpe and other places; praying for the establishment of a Circuit Court, a Registry Office, and a Municipal Council in the County of Soulanges; and that the Village of St. Polycarpe may be made the County Seat thereof.

Of the Corporation of the College of L'Assomption; praying for aid.

Of W. Kiernan and others, Sons of Temperance, and others; of Embro Division, No. 359; of Woodland Division, No. 168; of Warsaw Division, No. 201; of Oakdale Division, No. 271; of Kitley Division, No. 68; of Mallory Town Division, No. 10; of Coleman's Corners Division, No. 5, all of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; of T. Henry, Esquire, and others, of the Townships of Albion and Chinguacousy; and of Thomas Neelands and others, of the Townships of Albion and Chinguacousy; praying for the passing of a Prohibitory Liquor law.

Of Alexis Caron and others, of the Township of Shawenegan, County of St. Maurice; praying for aid to open and construct certain Roads in the said Township.

Of R.H. Thornhill and others, of the Township of Bertie, County of Welland; praying for an Act of Incorporation under the name of the President, Directors, and Company of the Fort Erie Canal Company.

Of F. Renaud and others, of the Parish of St. Ligouri, County of Montcalm; praying for the establishment in each Parish, of a Registry Office, a Circuit Court, a Court of Reconciliation, and a Municipal Council.

Of J.W. Dorwin and others, of the District of Montreal; praying for an Act

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of Incorporation to enable them to improve the Navigation of the River L'Assomption.

Of L'Institut Canadien of Iberville; praying for aid.

Of Luc Letellier, Esquire, of the Parish of Rivière Ouelle, in the County of Kamouraska, Notary Public, heretofore Candidate at the Election of a Member to represent the said County in the present Provincial Parliament, and as such duly qualified; setting forth: First, That at the last Election in and for the County of Kamouraska, of a Member to represent the said County in Parliament, the said Election being a General Election, which took place in the said County of Kamouraska in the months of July and August last, Jean Charles Chapais, Esquire, of the Parish of St. Denis, in the said County, and the Petitioner, Luc Letellier, were the only Candidates at the said Election: Second, That a Poll was demanded, granted and had, and at the close of the said Election, to wit: on or about the fourth day of August last, the said Jean Charles Chapais was declared and returned by the Returning Officer duly elected to represent the said County: Third, That the Petitioner has reason to believe and does verily believe that the said Jean Charles Chapais, Esquire, was not eligible as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, the said Jean Charles Chapais holding a salaried and a lucrative office under the Crown in this Province, to wit: that of Post Master for the Parish of St. Denis, in the County of Kamouraska aforesaid, and that the said Jean Charles Chapais was, by Commission under the Crown, before, at and after the said Election, in possession of the said paid office or charge, and did receive before, at and after the said Election a salary and emoluments for filling the said office or charge, thereby rendering the said Jean Charles Chapais ineligible at the said Election; that in consequence thereof the suffrages or votes registered during the said Election for the said County, being null through the want of qualification on the part of the said Jean Charles Chapais, they should be held to be of no effect, and that the said Luc Letellier, Esquire, being the only duly qualified Candidate at the said Election, and in whose favor suffrages and votes were duly received and registered at the said Election, he, the said Luc Letellier, should have, by the said Returning Officer, been returned and declared Member duly elected to represent the said County in the said Parliament: Fourth, That the Petitioner has reason to believe that a great majority of the legal votes were registered in his favor at the said Election, and that the majority of the said Jean Charles Chapais, together with a great number of other votes, to wit: three thousand three hundred and more, were fictitious, having been given by persons not entitled to the elective franchise, or whose votes were rendered illegal by reason of bribery, violence, and corruption, the said votes having been moreover enregistered in an illegal manner and contrary to the provisions of the Law: Fifth, That on the face of the Poll Books kept in the different localities entitled thereto in the said County, at the said Election, the majority of votes legally registered and really and correctly taken, amounts to more than three hundred and fifty-four in favor of the said Luc Letellier, and that in consequence of the said majority in favor of the said Luc Letellier at the close of the said Election, the said Returning Officer should have proclaimed the said Luc Letellier as the Member duly elected to represent the said County in the said Parliament: Sixth, That at four of the Polls opened in the said County, at the said Election, to wit: at Ste. Anne, Ixworth, St. Denis, and Mont Carmel, the votes were taken and registered, conformably to Law, during the first day of the Election, and during a part of the second day of the voting at the said Election, and that during the latter part of the second day of polling the votes registered were not registered in a true and correct manner, nor in conformity with the Law, as the whole appears by the Returns under

oath of the Deputy Returning Officers acting as such at each of the said four Polls; the Deputy Returning Officer at the Poll at Ste. Anne, by his Return under oath, declaring 1st, That up to number three hundred and fifty-one, the

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votes were taken in a true and correct manner at that Poll until about half-past ten in the forenoon of the second day of the voting at the said Election; that of such number two hundred and eighty votes were registered in favor of Mr. Chapais, and that ninety-two were registered in favor of the said Luc Letellier; 2nd, That at about that time the Poll was taken possession of, and it was impossible for him, on account of the violence used, to register the votes in a true and correct manner; the Deputy Returning Officer at Ixworth, by his Return under oath made to the Returning Officer, made a declaration similar to that made by the Deputy Returning Officer at the Poll at Ste. Anne, and he, by his said Return, attested only eighty-seven votes registered in a true and exact manner at the said Poll, sixty-two of which were registered in favor of the said Jean Charles Chapais, and twenty-five in favor of the said Luc Letellier; the Deputy Returning Officer at the Poll at St. Denis, by his Return under oath made to the Returning Officer, only attests two hundred and ninety votes as having been registered in a true and exact manner at the said Poll up to half-past eleven o'clock on the second day of voting at the said Election, of which two hundred and sixty-two were registered in favor of the said Jean Charles Chapais, and twenty-five in favor of the said Luc Letellier, declaring moreover that at the said hour the Poll was taken possession of by a mob, and that the voting was constrained and not under his sole control as Deputy Returning Officer; the Deputy Returning Officer at Mont Carmel, by his Return under oath made to the Returning Officer, declares that the votes taken and registered at the said Poll to the number one hundred and thirteen, and that the votes Nos. 141, 177 and 190, were registered according to Law, and that the remainder were votes neither approved by Law nor by him, and which he declares to have registered, being compelled thereto by superior force: Seventh, That eight other Polls were held and opened in conformity with the Law in the said County during the said Election, to wit: at St. Pacôme, Rivière Ouelle, St. Pascal, Woodbridge, St. Louis, Ste. Hélène, St. André, and St. Alexandre, and that at these eight Polls the votes were legally taken and registered at each of the said Polls, as the whole appears by the Returns under oath of the Deputy Returning Officers at each of the said Polls, which Returns are annexed to the Poll Books kept in the said places: Eighth, That in consequence, the votes registered in the said Poll Books after the number three hundred and fifty-one, in the Ste. Anne Poll Book, after the number eighty-seven in the Ixworth Poll Book, after the number two hundred and ninety in the St. Denis Poll Book, and after number one hundred and thirteen, without prejudice to Nos. 141, 177, and 190, in the Poll Book of Mont Carmel, are null and illegal, and were not taken and registered in a true and exact manner, nor in conformity with the Law; that they amount in number to two thousand six hundred and seventy-seven and upwards, and that they should be rejected, inasmuch as the Deputy Returning Officer in each of the said Polls have refused to certify them, and that consequently the votes which are registered in a true and correct manner at the said Election, as appeared at the close of the said Election by the Returns under oath of the Deputy Returning Officers, annexed to their respective Poll Books, give the numbers following; that is to say: For J.C. Chapais,--Ste. Anne, 257; Ixworth, 62; St. Denis, 262; Mont Carmel, 103; Rivière Ouelle, 59; St. Pascal, 108; St. Louis, 144; Woodbridge, 17; St. André, 155; St. Alexandre, 155; Ste. Hélène, 32; St. Pacôme, 150; Total, 1442. And for Luc Letellier,--Ste. Anne, 92;



Ixworth, 25; St. Denis, 20; Mont Carmel, 6; Rivière Ouelle, 601; St. Pascal, 284; St. Louis, 154; Woodbridge, 45; St. André, 122; St. Alexandre, 78; Ste. Hélène, 132; St. Pacôme, 207; Total, 1796. Giving in favor of the said Luc Letellier a majority of 354 votes legally taken and registered at the said Election; and praying the House to be pleased to order that the Return of Jean George Taché, Esquire, Returning Officer ex officio for the said County, at

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the said Election, be therefore amended by striking out the name of the said Jean Charles Chapais, and inserting in the place and stead thereof the name of Luc Letellier, the Petitioner, the said Luc Letellier having for the above reasons protested in writing in his own name against the said Jean George Taché against the Return of the said Jean Charles Chapais, and this before he had proclaimed him duly elected to represent the said County: That the Petitioner further represents, that a very large number of them who voted for the said Jean Charles Chapais, to wit: three thousand three hundred voters and upwards, registered their votes in favor of the said Jean Charles Chapais without possessing any of the qualifications required by the Statutes in force in that behalf, namely, without being possessed for their own use and benefit as proprietors by virtue of legal titles vesting such property in them either in fee simple or in freehold under the tenure of free and common socage, or in fief or in roture, or in franc aleu, or by virtue of certificates derived under the authority of the Governor and Council of the late Province of Quebec, or by virtue of any Act or Acts of the Legislature of either the late Provinces of Upper or Lower Canada, or of the Legislature of Canada, of lands or tenements lying and being in the said County, and being of the clear annual value of forty-four shillings and five pence and one farthing currency, (equal at the time of the passing of the Act of the Imperial Parliament passed in the thirty-first year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Third, commonly called "The Constitutional Act," to forty shillings sterling), or upwards, over and above all annual rents, whether ground rents (rentes foncières) or constituted rents (rentes constituées) or any other rents or charges payable out of or in respect of the same; nor were such persons at the time of giving their votes at such Election in actual and uninterrupted possession, for their own use and benefit, of such lands or tenements, or in the receipt of the rent or profits thereof as proprietors as aforesaid during at least six calendar months next before the date of the Writ of Election, to wit: on the twenty-third day of the month of June last, nor did the said lands come to them by descent or inheritance, or by devise, marriage, or contract of marriage, nor had the said voters any deed or instrument in writing containing a promise of sale (promesse de vente) in their favor, nor were the said voters in possession of the property mentioned in any deed or instrument in writing as aforesaid, nor were they in possession of any deed or instrument in writing as aforesaid containing a promise of sale (promesse de vente) in favor of any other person or persons who had conveyed to the said voters the properties mentioned in the said deeds or instruments in writing, which might be considered for the purposes of the Statute in such case made and provided, a legal title vesting such property in the persons so claiming to vote as aforesaid, and without such deed or instrument, not being a Notarial deed or instrument, having been registered at least twelve months before the said Election, and the said voters not possessing any of the other qualifications required by Law to entitle them to vote at the said Election: That the said Jean Charles Chapais, Candidate as aforesaid at the said Election for the County of Kamouraska, did directly and indirectly employ means of corruption,

by giving sums of money, offices, places, employments, gratuities, rewards, and bonds, obligations, bills and notes, conveyances of land, and promises of the same, to divers electors having votes in the said County, to wit: to three thousand three hundred of the said electors, and more, and did threaten divers other electors of the said County, to wit: three thousand three hundred electors and upwards, of the said County, of losing offices, salaries, incomes and advantages then and there possessed by the said electors, both by himself and his authorized agents for that purpose, with the intent to corrupt the said electors above mentioned, and to bribe them to vote for him the said Jean Charles Chapais as such Candidate as aforesaid, and to prevent the said electors from voting for the said Luc Letellier, the other Candidate at the said Election: That the said Jean Charles Chapais, as such Candidate as afore-

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said, did open and support, and cause to be opened and supported at his own cost and expense, divers houses of public entertainment for the reception of the electors of the said County, in which said houses of public entertainment, and in divers other places in the said County, he did give and distribute, and cause to be given and distributed, large quantities of hay and straw, peas, drinks, spirituous liquors, and other provisions, to the said electors in and for the said County, with the intent to corrupt the electors of the said County, and to bribe them to vote for him the said Jean Charles Chapais; that the said Jean Charles Chapais and his agents and partizans as aforesaid, by the employment of similar means and similar threats as aforesaid, and other informal, corrupt and illegal practices, obtained an undue majority over the said Luc Letellier, the said other Candidate as aforesaid, by means whereof he has been unduly and illegally returned as the Representative in Parliament of the said County of Kamouraska: That at the said Election for the said County of Kamouraska, divers persons did give and cause to be given, divers sums of money, and did give divers sums of money, gratuities and rewards, and did give divers bonds and bills, and divers conveyances of land, and other property, and promises of the same, to divers electors, with the intent to bribe the said electors to vote for the said Jean Charles Chapais, Candidate as aforesaid, and to keep them back from voting for the said Luc Letellier, the other Candidate as aforesaid, and as a compensation to the said electors for their loss of time and expenses in going to and returning from voting as aforesaid: That the said Jean Charles Chapais, by means of corruption hereinabove last mentioned, obtained over the said Luc Letellier, the other Candidate as aforesaid, an undue majority, by means whereby he has been unduly and illegally returned as Representative in Parliament of the said County of Kamouraska: That the said Jean Charles Chapais, Candidate for the Representation of the said County of Kamouraska, with the intent to promote his Election, did provide and furnish entertainment at his own expense, to divers meetings of electors assembled for the purpose of promoting the said Election, and did pay for, procure and engage to pay for the said entertainment, and that divers other persons with the intent to promote the Election of the said Jean Charles Chapais, Candidate as aforesaid for the Representation of the said County, did provide and furnish at their own expense, for the entertainment of divers meetings of electors assembled for the purpose of promoting the said Election, and previous to and during the Election at which the said Jean Charles Chapais was Candidate as aforesaid, and did engage to pay for the said entertainment, and did provide therefor as aforesaid; that the said Jean Charles Chapais, by the means of corruption, bribery and entertainment hereinabove last set forth, did obtain an undue majority over the said Luc Letellier,



the other Candidate as aforesaid, by means whereof he has been unduly and illegally returned as the Representative in Parliament of the said County of Kamouraska: That the Petitioner doth further humbly allege and affirm, that at the late Election of a Member to serve in Parliament for the said County of Kamouraska, previous to and after the attesting and issuing of the Writ for holding the said Election, and during and after the said Election, the said Jean Charles Chapais did by himself, his agents, friends and canvassers, partizans and others in his name, in divers ways and means, directly and indirectly give, present and grant to persons having votes at the said Election, money, hay, straw, intoxicating liquors, entertainment and reward, and promises of the same to such person, in order to the Election of him the said Jean Charles Chapais, and thereupon serving in this present Parliament for the County of Kamouraska: That the said Jean Charles Chapais, by himself, his friends, agents, canvassers, partizans and others in his name, was guilty of bribery, entertaining and extensive and systematic corrupt practices in order to procure persons being or claiming to be entitled to vote at the said Election, to vote for the said Jean Charles Chapais, and to abstain from voting for the said Luc Letellier, and that the said bribery and the said corrupt practices did take place openly and notoriously in the said County, and were

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well known to the inhabitants thereof; that the Return of the said Jean Charles Chapais was obtained by means of the said corrupt and illegal practices, and that therefore the said Election and Return of the said Jean Charles Chapais were and are absolutely null and of no effect: That the Petitioner further sheweth, that during the said Election, and more particularly on the second polling day at the said Election, a system of intimidation, violence, threats, injuries and force was organized and designed, with the view of keeping back, by intimidation and violence, the electors who were desirous of voting for the said Luc Letellier from registering their votes in his favor; that in consequence of this system of intimidation, violence, threatening, injury and force, a great number of the electors who came to register their votes in favor of the said Luc Letellier at the said Election, were ill-treated, beaten, threatened and intimidated, and thereby prevented from so doing, and from the free use of their elective franchise at the Polls held at Ste. Anne, Ixworth, St. Denis, Mont Carmel and St. Alexandre during the holding of the Poll at the said Election; that this system of violence, threats, force, injuries and intimidation organized by the said Jean Charles Chapais, his agents, friends and partizans at the said Election, was carried to such an extent that the public highways at St. Denis, in the said County, were obstructed by the said agents, friends, partizans and electors of the said Jean Charles Chapais, who did stop the electors on the public road while on their way from one Parish to another to exercise their franchise, and who were moreover kept and detained from the Poll in the said Parish of St. Denis, in the said County, the whole of the second day: That this system of violence and intimidation was employed by the said Jean Charles Chapais, his partizans, agents, friends and electors, against the representatives and agents of the said Luc Letellier; and that at Ste. Anne, the agents, partizans, friends and electors of the said Jean Charles Chapais, armed with sticks, staves and guns, did maltreat, beat, insult, and throw out of the window, the agents and representatives of the said Luc Letellier in the said Poll, which they attacked, seized and kept possession of: That at the Polls at Mont Carmel, St. Denis, and Ixworth, by means of this system of violence and intimidation, the agents and representatives of the said Luc Letellier at the said Poll during the voting at the said Election,



were prevented from acting in their said capacity, and that whenever the said agents or representatives endeavored to make legal objections to the voters who presented themselves to register their votes, or required the oath of qualification from such voters, they were threatened, maltreated, injured, insulted and intimidated by an armed mob of the partizans, friends, electors and agents of the said Jean Charles Chapais, and that the electors of the said Luc Letellier were also in like manner threatened, maltreated, and intimidated by the said mob: That in consequence of the system above described, after having attacked the Polls at Ste. Anne, Ixworth, St. Denis, Mont Carmel, and St. Alexandre, the Deputy Returning Officers at the said Polls were compelled and obliged by violence and threats to inscribe in the Poll Books a host of names of persons absent, or deceased, or of persons who had voted under fictitious and borrowed names: That by these means of violence, and after having seized the said Polls, the said agents, partizans and electors of the said Jean Charles Chapais did cause to enter and vote a large number of children scarcely able to pronounce their names, and this contrary to the Laws and in violation of the elective franchise, social order, and public morals, and of the privileges of the House, and that these names were registered in the said Poll Books to the number of several thousands: That in consequence of which violent and illegal practices and of the measures adopted and practised, as above set forth, by the said Jean Charles Chapais, his agents, friends, partizans and electors, the said Jean Charles Chapais is ineligible as a Member to represent the said County, and inasmuch as by the said means the said Petitioner was unable to have registered all the votes

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of the electors who would have voted in his favor at the said Election, and who to the number of three hundred were unable so to do, and inasmuch as the votes registered in favor of the said Jean Charles Chapais at the said Polls of Ste. Anne, Ixworth, St. Denis, and Mont Carmel, were so registered by means of violence, intimidation, threats and force, in a manner which is neither true nor correct, nor in conformity with the Law, and inasmuch as they are not certified as having been registered legally by the said Deputy Returning Officers, the said Petitioner prays that they may be null, and struck out of the said Poll Books; and praying that the House will declare the Election of the said Jean Charles Chapais to be null and of no effect, and that the Petitioner has been well and duly elected Member to represent the said County in the present Parliament, and that the Return be amended in conformity with the said conclusions, and that the House will cause the said Election Return to be amended, by striking out the name of the said Jean Charles Chapais, and inserting instead thereof the name of the said Luc Letellier; and that the House will take into consideration the allegations hereinbefore set out, and declare the Election and Return of the said Jean Charles Chapais to be null and void, or that the House will do justice to this Petition as it may deem expedient.

Of D. Macdonell and others, of the City of Toronto, Merchants; praying for an Act of Incorporation to enable them to establish an Exchange in the said City.

Of the Quebec Bank; praying for the passing of an Act to increase the Capital Stock of the said Bank.

Of Jean Langlois, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, Advocate; setting forth: That the Petitioner was one of the Candidates at the Election of a Member or Representative to represent the County of Saguenay in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, which took place in the months of July and August last, at

the time of the last General Election, and that he was duly qualified, according to Law, to be elected: That Pierre G. Huot being also a Candidate at the said Election for the said County of Saguenay, a Poll was demanded by the electors of the said County, and granted according to Law by Charles Duberger, Esquire, of the Parish of Les Eboulements, in the said County, Returning Officer at the said Election, who appointed and determined the places at which the said Poll should be held for the taking of the votes of the Election of the said County, and, among other places or localities at which Polls were to be holden, appointed the Parish of St. Fidèle, one of the Parishes of the said County of Saguenay, at which a Poll ought according to Law to be opened and held, and that he nominated and appointed to hold the said Poll in the said Parish of St. Fidèle, in the said County, the person of John McLaren, of the said Parish of St. Fidèle, gentleman, who appointed as his Poll Clerk for the said Parish of St. Fidèle, John McLeod, gentleman, then of the said County of Saguenay: That on the day appointed by the said Returning Officer, Charles Duberger, for the closing of the Election, that is to say, on the third of August last, the said Returning Officer had received the Returns of all the Deputy Returning Officers appointed by him at the said Election, except that of the said John McLaren, the Deputy Returning Officer appointed by him as aforesaid to open and hold the said Poll in the said Parish of St. Fidèle, and that inasmuch as the said John McLaren had not on the said day or on any day prior thereto, given in a Return of his proceedings, the close of the Election was then and there adjourned by the said Returning Officer to the following day, that is to say, to the fourth of August last: That on the said day so secondly appointed for the close of the said Election, that is to say, on the fourth day of August last, some sheets stitched together (Cahier) having neither certificate nor signature, nor seal, were delivered to the said Charles Duberger, the Returning Officer aforesaid, in the absence of the said John McLaren, Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish of St. Fidèle, and of

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the said John McLeod, his Poll Clerk, by one of the known partizans of the said Pierre G. Huot, at the said Election, that is to say, by Jean Gagné, Esquire, Notary, of the Parish of Malbaie, in the said County, who represented the said sheets to be the Poll Book kept by the said John McLaren at the said Parish of St. Fidèle, and that although the said sheets or pretended Poll Book were neither closed nor certified, nor sealed by the said Deputy Returning Officer, John McLaren, and although the affidavits by Law required from Deputy Returning Officers and Poll Clerks were not annexed to the said sheets as by Law required, and although they were delivered to the said Returning Officer by the hand of a third person, and not in the presence of the said John McLaren, the Deputy Returning Officer aforesaid, and of the said John McLeod, his Poll Clerk, and without the production of any valid authority from them for the delivery of the said sheets or Poll Book, the said Charles Duberger, the Returning Officer aforesaid, received and accepted the said sheets as the Poll Book for the said Parish of St. Fidèle, and added to the votes enregistered in the Poll Books regularly closed, certified, signed, sealed and returned, the names and pretended votes entered and written on the said sheets, and thus gave a majority of votes to the said Pierre G. Huot, although he was then of opinion, had reason to believe, and did verily believe, as he declares in his special Return, that this pretended Poll Book contained sheets which had been added after the close of the Poll at the said Parish of St. Fidèle: That the sheets delivered to the said Returning Officer, Charles Duberger, by the said Jean Gagné as aforesaid, and returned with the Writ of Election for the said County, ought not, according to the strict letter of the Law, to be considered as the Poll Book for the said Parish of St. Fidèle,

because the said sheets were neither certified, signed, nor sealed according to law by the Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish of St. Fidèle, because they contain no date and are informal, irregular, incorrect, and on the face thereof null and of none effect: That the pretended votes enregistered in the said sheets, so delivered to the said Returning Officer, were not taken and received at the Poll held in the said Parish of St. Fidèle during the days and hours appointed by Law and by the said Returning Officer for the voting at the said Election: That the said John McLaren did not make and has not at any time made any Return or Report to the said Charles Duberger, Returning Officer as aforesaid, of his proceedings as Deputy Returning Officer for the said Parish of St. Fidèle: That the said Petitioner, Jean Langlois, had, at the said Election for the said County of Saguenay, a majority of all the votes enregistered in the said County of Saguenay at all the Polls holden therein during the days and hours fixed and appointed for the said voting by Law, and by the said Returning Officer: That by the Poll Books regularly kept, returned and delivered in by the different Deputy Returning Officers named and appointed by the said Returning Officer, Charles Duberger, the said Jean Langlois had at the close of the Polls, and of the Election, for the said County of Saguenay, a majority of the votes taken and enregistered according to Law in the said County at the said Election: That the said Charles Duberger, Returning Officer as aforesaid, disregarding such majority of votes in favor of the said Jean Langlois, did on the fourth of August last, unlawfully, falsely and unjustly proclaim the said Pierre G. Huot to be the Representative of the said County, and did make his Return to the House that the said Pierre G. Huot had been elected to represent the said County of Saguenay in the present Parliament: That the Petitioner further represents that on the day appointed for the nomination of the Candidates at the said Election for the said County of Saguenay, the qualification of the said Pierre G. Huot was lawfully demanded, and that the said Pierre G. Huot did then and there deliver to the said Returning Officer, Charles Duberger, a certain document which he represented as his qualification to be eligible for the said County, that the property designated in the said qualification, and by means of which he pretended

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to be qualified to be eligible to represent the said County of Saguenay in Parliament, did not, at the date of the said Election, belong to the said Pierre G. Huot, that it has never belonged to him either before or since the said Election, and the said Pierre G. Huot has never had the enjoyment or possession thereof as proprietor; that the said property, even if belonging to him at the date of the said Election, was not then and is not now of the value of five hundred pounds sterling, over and above all rents, mortgages, charges and hypothecary debts attached to, being due or payable out of the said property, or by which it might be burthened; that at the time when the said Election took place, the said Pierre G. Huot was not duly qualified according to Law to be eligible to represent the said County of Saguenay in the Legislative Assembly of this Province, and that if the said Pierre G. Huot was the proprietor and seized of the said property at the date of the said Election, the said Petitioner affirms that it was acquired by the said Pierre G. Huot collusively and speciously for the express purpose of qualifying himself and rendering himself eligible as a Member of the said Legislative Assembly; and praying the House will be pleased to take this Petition into consideration, that the said Return for the Election of the County of Saguenay and the Election of the said Pierre G. Huot be declared null, that the Petitioner be declared elected to represent the said County of Saguenay in the room and



stead of the said Pierre G. Huot, that the Return of the said Charles Duberger, Returning Officer for the said County, may therefore be amended, and that the House will grant such relief in the premises as it may see fit, by the adoption of any other course of proceeding which may tend to do justice to the Petitioner.

Of George S. Tiffany and others; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize the sale of a certain parcel of land in the Township of Guelph now held in trust by the parties therein interested.

Of Martin Mackinnon, of the Township of Vaughan; praying that a certain Glebe Lot in the said Township, occupied by him and improved since the year 1833, may be sold to him at the same price that other lots have been disposed of; that the Court of Chancery may be abolished,--the Clergy Reserves sold, and the funds appropriated to Free Common Schools; and that the fifty-seven Rectories may also be abolished.

Of the Municipality of the Village of Oshawa; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize them to construct a Harbour on Lake Ontario, and to make a tram road therefrom to the said Village, with power to continue the same to Scugog Lake.

Of Gédéon Quimet and others, Municipal Councillors of the Village of Vaudreuil; and of H. Cartier and others, Municipal Councillors of the County of Vaudreuil; praying that the amendments petitioned for by the Vaudreuil Railway Company to the Act incorporating the said Company may be granted to them.

Of the President and others of the Association of Teachers of the County of L'Islet; praying for aid.

Of A. Stinson and others, Trustees of the Compton High School, in the County of Compton; praying for aid in behalf thereof.

Of the Reverend J.O. Prince and others, of St. Norbert d'Arthabaska; praying for certain amendments to the Municipal Law, and the consolidation of the Road Laws of Lower Canada.

Of the Reverend J.O. Prince and others, of St. Norbert d'Arthabaska; praying that those persons who have settled in the Eastern Townships coming under the name of Squatters, may be protected by law in the rights they have so acquired.

Of André Benjamin Papineau, Notary, residing in the Parish of St. Martin, in the County of Laval, in the District of Montreal; setting forth: That at the time of the last Election for the County of Laval, which was held in virtue of a Writ issued under the seal of this Province, bearing date the twenty-

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third day of June last, the Petitioner was and had been for more than six months prior to the date of the said Writ, proprietor, under good titles, of lands situate in the Parish of St. Martin, the annual value whereof exceeded forty shillings sterling, and that he was duly qualified to vote and did vote at the said Election: That by the Return of S.F. McMahon, Esquire, Returning Officer for the said County of Laval, at the said last Election, it appears that Pierre Labelle, Esquire, was elected to represent the said County of Laval in the present Parliament: That the Petitioner further represents, that at the time of the issue of the said Writ, and also at the time of the said Election for the said County of Laval, the said Pierre Labelle, Esquire, was and still is, at the present time a contractor under the Provincial Government, having contracted with the Board of Public Works of this Province by two Deeds passed before Belle (sic) and his colleague, Notaries, bearing date at Montreal the twenty-eighth day of November one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and the seventh day of March one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, in conjunction with Augustin LaBerge and Michel Bro dit Pomminville, for the masonry and carpentry of a building to serve as a Court House in the City of Montreal, which said work and labor were contracted to be done in consideration of the

price or sum of Twenty-one thousand three hundred and fifteen pounds, five shillings and ... eleven pence currency, which money was to be paid out of the Public Funds of this Province: That the Petitioner produces herewith authentic copies of the said two Deeds or Contracts: That the said works mentioned in the said two Deeds were not completed at the period of the said Election, and that they are not yet completed and have not been received as such nor paid for: That the said Pierre Labelle was moreover, at the time of the said Election, employed by the Board of Public Works aforesaid in the completion of certain works in and about the said Court House in the City of Montreal: That for the reasons above set forth, the said Pierre Labelle was ineligible and has no right to represent the said County of Laval in Parliament, and that his Election is altogether null and void; and praying that the House will be pleased to take this Petition into its serious consideration, and do justice thereto by declaring that the said Pierre Labelle was ineligible at the time of the said last Election for the County of Laval, and that the House will at the same time declare that the Election of the said Pierre Labelle is null, and that the seat for the said County of Laval is vacant, and so ordain according to Law that the said County of Laval may be represented in Parliament.

Of Noël Hébert and others, of St. Norbert d'Arthabaska; praying that the United Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska may be separated, and each entitled to send a Representative to Parliament.

Of Noël Hébert and others, of St. Norbert d'Arthabaska; praying that compensation may be provided for Jurors attending the Courts in Lower Canada.

Of Noël Hébert and others, of St. Norbert d'Arthabaska; praying that the annual Provincial Grant for Public Education may be increased to One hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

Of the Honorable Z. Burnham and others, of the Township of Hamilton, County of Northumberland; praying for the passing of an Act to confirm the Survey made by John K. Roche of the said Township.

Of the Woodstock and Lake Erie Railway and Harbour Company; praying for the passing of an Act to amend their Act of Incorporation, and enable them to extend their line of Railway.

Of the Municipality of the Township of Southwold; and of the Municipality of the Township of Elgin; praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate the Southern Union Railway Company.

Of the Municipal Council of the County of Yarmouth; praying for the passing of an Act to incorporate the Southern Railway Company.

Of the Municipality of the Village of Vienna; praying for the passing of

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an Act to incorporate a Company for the construction of a Railway from Port Dover to St. Thomas, viâ the said Village of Vienna.

Of the President, Directors, and Company of Port Burwell Harbour; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.

Of the Municipality of the Township of Bayham; and of the Municipality of the Village of Vienna; praying that the Petition of the President, Directors, and Company of Port Burwell Harbour for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation may be granted.

Of Samuel Carr, of Toronto, Manufacturer; praying that the duty on unmanufactured Hair may be reduced to the same rate as that imposed on other raw material.

Of the Reverend R.O. Bruneau and others, School Commissioners of the Parish of Verchères; praying aid for an Educational establishment in the said Parish.

Of George Pandust and others, Chiefs and People of the Tribe of Mississauga Indians residing at Rice Lake, in the Township of Otanabee (sic), County of Peterborough; praying to be confirmed and protected in their rights and the possession of certain Islands reserved by their ancestors on their cession to the Crown of the adjacent territory.

Of J. Keith and others, of the Circuit of Beauharnois; praying that the place of holding the Circuit Court of the said Circuit may be changed to the Village of St. Clement.

Of James Douglas and others, of the City of Quebec; praying for an Act of Incorporation under the name of the Megantic Mining Company.

Of the Municipal Council of the County of Middlesex; praying for the passing of an Act to enable them to negotiate a Loan for consolidating the County Debt.

Of William Winder, Esquire, Librarian to this House; praying compensation for losses sustained by him through the destruction by fire of the Parliament Buildings at Quebec and Montreal.

Of the Huntingdon and Lake St. Francis Road Company; praying compensation for damage to the said Road caused by the Dam erected by the Board of Works at the head of the Beauharnois Canal.

Of Leopold Desrosiers and others, of Berthier, in the District of Montreal, praying for aid in behalf of the Berthier Library Association and Mechanics' Institute.

Of T. Kearnes, Esquire, and others, of the Township of North Plantagenet, County of Prescott; and of the Municipality of the Township of North Plantagenet; praying for the passing of an Act to change the Road allowance from between Lots numbers six and seven in the first and second concessions, to Lots numbers seven in the second and third concessions in the said Township, and to vest the old allowance in Henry Erratt in lieu of that taken from the new road.

Of the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal; praying for aid.

Of the Committee of the British and Canadian School Society of Montreal; praying for aid.

Of the Ladies Committee of the Quebec Infant School; praying for aid.

Of Joseph Morrin, Esquire, and others, Shareholders in the Quebec Building Society; praying that their Act of Incorporation may be so amended as to facilitate the action of General Meetings of the said Society.

Of the Reverend L.T. Brassard and others, School Commissioners of the Parish of St. Paul; praying aid for two Educational Establishments in the said Parish.

Of the Municipality of the Township of Otonabee; praying for the passing of an Act to authorize them to make a certain change in the line of the Highway leading to Peterborough.

Of the Municipality of North Monaghan; praying for the repeal of the Act 16 Vic. cap. 228, to confirm a certain allowance for Road in the said Township.

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Of the Members and Trustees of Zion Church, in the City of Montreal; praying for the passing of an Act to enable them to sell, hypothecate, or purchase property according to the requirements of the said Church.

Of F.A. Cutter, Esquire, and others, Physicians and Surgeons, of Missisquoi and Shefford; praying for the passing of an Act to amend the Act of last Session amending the Act to incorporate the Medical Profession of Lower Canada, so as to entitle them to the privileges thereof.

Of the Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly Railroad Company; praying for certain amendments to their Act of Incorporation.



Of the Kingsey Slate Works Company; praying for an Act of Incorporation.

Of the Corporation of the Seminary of St. Hyacinthe; praying for aid.

Of William H. Brehaut, Joint Clerk of the Peace for the District of Montreal; representing the injustice of certain changes made with reference to offices held by him since the year 1838, and the pecuniary losses to which he has in consequence been subjected,--and praying for compensation and relief in the premises.

The Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond, one of Her Majesty's Executive Council, rose in his place, and acquainted Mr. Speaker and the House, that His Excellency the Governor General will receive the House with its Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the present Session, this day, at half past four o'clock, at the Government House.

At the hour appointed, Mr. Speaker and the House attended upon His Excellency the Governor General, with the Address of the House,

And being returned;

Mr. Speaker reported, That the House had attended upon His Excellency with their Address in answer to the Speech of His Excellency to both Houses of the Legislature, to which His Excellency was pleased to make the following Answer:--

Gentlemen,

I thank you for your loyal Address, and I rely on your wisdom and prudence to aid me in such measures as are necessary to promote the peace and prosperity of the Province.

The Honorable Mr. Chauveau, one of Her Majesty's Executive Council, presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor General, Copy of a Treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America; which is as followeth:--

HER Majesty, the Queen of Great Britain, being equally desirous with the Government of the United States to avoid further misunderstanding between their respective Subjects and Citizens, in regard to the extent of the right of Fishing on the coasts of British North America, secured to each by Article I. of a Convention between the United States and Great Britain, signed at London on the twentieth day of October, 1818; and being also desirous to regulate the Commerce and Navigation between their respective Territories and People, and more especially between Her Majesty's Possessions in North America, and the United States, in such manner as to render the same reciprocally beneficial and satisfactory, have respectively named Plenipotentiaries to confer and agree thereupon, that is to say: Her Majesty, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Lord Bruce and Elgin, a Peer of the United Kingdom, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, and Governor General in and over all Her Britannic Majesty's Provinces on the Continent of North America, and in and over the Island of Prince Edward, and the President of the United States of America, William L. Marcy, Secretary of State of the United States, who, after having communicated to each other their respective full Powers, found in good

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and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles:--

#### ARTICLE I.

It is agreed by the High Contracting Parties, that in addition to the liberty secured to the United States fishermen by the above mentioned Convention of October 20, 1818, of taking, curing, and drying fish on certain coasts of the British North American Colonies therein defined, the Inhabitants of the United States shall have, in common with the Subjects of Her Britannic Majesty,

the liberty to take fish of every kind, except shell-fish, on the sea-coasts and shores, and in the bays, harbours, and creeks of Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, and of the several Islands thereunto adjacent, without being restricted to any distance from the shore; with permission to land upon the coasts and shores of those Colonies and the Islands thereof, and also upon the Magdalen Islands, for the purpose of drying their nets and curing their fish; provided that in so doing, they do not interfere with the rights of private property or British fishermen in the peaceable use of any part of the said coast in their occupancy for the same purpose.

It is understood that the above mentioned liberty applies solely to the sea fishery, and that the salmon and shad fisheries, and all fisheries in rivers, and the mouths of rivers, are hereby reserved exclusively for British fishermen.

And it is further agreed, that in order to prevent or settle any disputes as to the places to which the reservation of exclusive right to British fishermen contained in this Article, and that of fishermen of the United States contained in the next succeeding Article, apply, each of the High Contracting Parties, on the application of either to the other, shall, within six months thereafter, appoint a Commissioner. The said Commissioners before proceeding to any business, shall make and subscribe a solemn declaration that they will impartially and carefully examine and decide to the best of their judgment, and according to justice and equity, without fear, favor or affection to their own country, upon all such places as are intended to be reserved and excluded from the common liberty of fishing under this and the next succeeding Article; and such declaration shall be entered on the record of their proceedings. The Commissioners shall name some third person to act as an Arbitrator or Umpire in any case or cases, on which they may themselves differ in opinion. If they should not be able to agree upon the name of such third person, they shall each name a person, and it shall be determined by lot which of the two persons so named shall be the Arbitrator or Umpire in cases of difference or disagreement between the Commissioners. The person so to be chosen to be Arbitrator or Umpire shall, before proceeding to act as such in any case, make and subscribe a solemn declaration in a form similar to that which shall already have been made and subscribed by the Commissioners, which shall be entered on the record of their proceedings. In the event of the death, absence, or incapacity of either of the Commissioners or of the Arbitrator or Umpire, or of their or his omitting, declining or ceasing to act as such Commissioner, Arbitrator, or Umpire, another and different person shall be appointed or named as aforesaid, to act as such Commissioner, Arbitrator, or Umpire, in the place and stead of the person so originally appointed or named as aforesaid, and shall make and subscribe such declaration as aforesaid.

Such Commissioners shall proceed to examine the coasts of the North American Provinces and of the United States embraced within the provisions of the first and second Articles of this Treaty, and shall designate the places reserved by the said Articles from the common right of fishing therein.

The decision of the Commissioners and of the Arbitrator or Umpire shall be given in writing in each case, and shall be signed by them respectively.

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The High Contracting Parties hereby solemnly engage to consider the decision of the Commissioners conjointly, or of the Arbitrator or Umpire, as the case may be, as absolutely final and conclusive in each case decided upon by them or him, respectively.

## ARTICLE II.

It is agreed by the High Contracting Parties that British Subjects shall have, in common with the Citizens of the United States, the liberty to take fish of every kind, except shell-fish, on the Eastern sea coasts and shores of the United States, North of the 36th parallel of North Latitude, and on the shores of the several Islands thereunto adjacent, and in the bays, harbours, and creeks of the said sea coasts and shores of the United States and of the said Islands, without being restricted to any distance from the shore, with permission to land upon the said coasts of the United States and of the Islands aforesaid, for the purpose of drying their nets and curing their fish: provided that in so doing, they do not interfere with the rights of private property, or with the fishermen of the United States in the peaceable use of any part of the said coasts in their occupancy for the same purpose.

It is understood that the above mentioned liberty applies solely to the sea fishery, and that salmon and shad fisheries, and all fisheries in rivers and mouths of rivers are hereby reserved exclusively for fishermen of the United States.

## ARTICLE III.

It is agreed, that the Articles enumerated in the Schedule hereunto annexed, being the growth and produce of the aforesaid British Colonies or of the United States, shall be admitted into each Country respectively free of duty:--

## SCHEDULE.

Grain, flour, and breadstuffs of all kinds.  
 Animals of all kinds.  
 Fresh, smoked and salted meats.  
 Cotton-wool, seeds and vegetables.  
 Undried fruits, dried fruits.  
 Fish of all kinds.  
 Products of fish and of all other creatures living in the water.  
 Poultry, eggs.  
 Hides, furs, skins or tails undressed.  
 Stone or marble in its crude or unwrought state.  
 Slate.  
 Butter, cheese, tallow.  
 Lard, horns, manures.  
 Ores of metals of all kinds.  
 Coal.  
 Pitch, tar, turpentine, ashes.  
 Timber and lumber of all kinds, round hewed, sawed, unmanufactured in whole or in part.  
 Firewood.  
 Plants, shrubs and trees.  
 Pelts, wool.  
 Fish-oil.  
 Rice, broomcorn, and bark.  
 Gypsum, ground or unground.  
 Hem or wrought or unwrought burr or grindstones.  
 Dye-stuffs.

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Flax, hemp, and tow unmanufactured.  
 Unmanufactured tobacco.  
 Rags.



## ARTICLE IV.

It is agreed that the Citizens and Inhabitants of the United States shall have the right to navigate the River St. Lawrence and the Canals in Canada, used as the means of communicating between the Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean, with their vessels, boats, and crafts, as fully and freely as the Subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, subject only to the same tolls and other assessments as now are or may hereafter be exacted of Her Majesty's said Subjects, it being understood however, that the British Government retains the right of suspending this privilege on giving due notice thereof to the Government of the United States.

It is further agreed that if at any time the British Government should exercise the said reserved right, the Government of the United States shall have the right of suspending, if it think fit, the operation of Article III, of the present Treaty in so far as the Province of Canada is affected thereby, for so long as the suspension of the free navigation of the River St. Lawrence or the Canals may continue.

It is further agreed that British Subjects shall have the right freely to navigate Lake Michigan with their vessels, boats and crafts, so long as the privilege of navigating the River St. Lawrence secured to American Citizens by the above clause of the present Article shall continue, and the Government of the United States further engages to urge upon the State Governments to secure to the Subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, the use of the several State Canals on terms of equality with the Inhabitants of the United States.

And it is further agreed that no Export duty or other duty shall be levied on lumber or timber of any kind cut on that portion of the American territory in the State of Maine, watered by the River St. John and its tributaries, and floated down that river to the sea, when the same is shipped to the United States from the Province of New Brunswick.

## ARTICLE V.

The present Treaty shall take effect as soon as the Laws required to carry it into operation shall have been passed by the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain, and by the Provincial Parliaments of those of the British North American Colonies which are affected by this Treaty on the one hand, and by the Congress of the United States on the other. Such assent having been given, the Treaty shall remain in force for ten years from the date at which it may come into operation, and further until the expiration of twelve months after either of the High Contracting Parties shall give notice to the other of its wish to terminate the same; each of the High Contracting Parties being at liberty to give such notice to the other at the end of the said term of ten years, or at any time afterwards.

It is clearly understood, however, that this stipulation is not intended to affect the reservation made by Article IV. of the present Treaty with regard to the right of temporarily suspending the operation of Articles III. and IV. thereof.

## ARTICLE VI.

And it is hereby further agreed that the provisions and stipulations of the foregoing Articles shall extend to the Island of Newfoundland, so far as they are applicable to that Colony. But if the Imperial Parliament, the Provincial Parliament of Newfoundland, or the Congress of the United States shall not embrace in their laws enacted for carrying this Treaty into effect, the Colony of Newfoundland, then this Article shall be of no effect, but the

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omission to make provision by law to give it effect, by either of the Legislative bodies aforesaid, shall not in any way impair the remaining Articles of this Treaty.

## ARTICLE VII.

The present Treaty shall be duly ratified and the mutual exchange of ratifications shall take place in Washington within six months from the date hereof, or earlier if possible.

In faith whereof, We, the respective Plenipotentiaries, have signed this Treaty, and have hereunto affixed our Seals.

Done in triplicate, at Washington, the Fifth day of June, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

(Signed,) Elgin & Kincardine, [L.S.]  
W.L. Marcy, [L.S.]

Certified Copy,  
L. Oliphant,  
Private Secretary.

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND moved that the Treaty be printed.<sup>2</sup>

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Ordered, That the said Treaty be printed for the use of the Members of this House.

On motion of Mr. Joseph Curran Morrison, seconded by Mr. Munro,

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the South Riding of the County of Oxford, in the room of the Honorable Francis Hincks who has made his Election to serve for the County of Renfrew.

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN moved that the House proceed to consider the report of the Select Committee appointed to nominate Standing Committees.... Mr. M. stated that he intended to move to add the names of Messrs. Rankin and Mongenais to the Railroad Committee. He also explained that his own name had been placed on that Committee, but that his intention was to decline serving as soon as Sir Allan MacNab should return to the House, in order that the hon. and gallant knight might be put on the committee.<sup>3</sup>

MR. BROWN objected strongly to the composition of the Railroad Committee. It was a packed Committee. In the last Parliament that Committee was composed of 14 ministerialists and 3 opposition members. Now it had been changed to 13 ministerialists and 4 opposition members, and the Commissioner of Crown Lands proposed to add two more ministerialists so as to make it stand 15 ministerialists to 4 opposition members. Was there the slightest pretence of fairness in such a committee as that? Gentlemen might say that politics had nothing to do with the matter, but he apprehended that they had a great deal to do with it. Then, again, there had been no attempt to give a fair representation on the Committee to the different portions of the Province. There were only four members on it from west of Brockville, although half the population was west of that. He complained also, that too many members of the Committee were interested in Railroad affairs. Six of them were directors of the Grand Trunk, another was Solicitor of the Grand Trunk and there were several other gentleman (sic) who were presidents or directors of other roads. It was quite clear that those gentlemen could not consider the interests of

rival roads with those dispassionate feelings with which they ought to be considered. Another result would be a tendency to amalgamate the railroads of the country. The thing was a perfect farce.--It was a repetition of what took place in the last Parliament, when the committee was composed entirely of gentlemen from along one of the proposed lines for the Grand Trunk, and the back townships had not the slightest influence.--The hon. member then called attention to the fact, that whilst all the friends of the government on the committee were directly interested in railways, not one of the opposition members of the Committee was in any way connected with any road. The hon. member for the town of Sherbrooke (Mr. Galt) was on the list originally prepared by the government, but the Select Committee had stricken his name off for the very reason that he was connected with a railroad.<sup>4</sup>

MR. ROBINSON thought that railroad men ought to be put on the committee. If that course had not been pursued in the last Parliament they would not have had all the railroads now in progress through the country. It would be absurd to put gentlemen on the committee who were opposed to railroads, or knew nothing about them. He was glad that the committee had been formed on the same principle as the last.<sup>5</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN denied that the committee had been formed with any regard to political considerations.<sup>6</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD complained that there were on the Committee persons who had private interests in certain railroads.<sup>7</sup> [He] condemned the committee as unfair to the opposition and unjust to Upper Canadian interests.<sup>8</sup>

MR. RANKIN did not think that, if gentlemen opposite had been in power, they would have been magnanimous enough to put a majority of their opponents on the committee. If the government wished to carry out those measures which they believed to be best for the interests of the country, they must of course secure a preponderance of their supporters in all the committees. He complained, however, that the region of country from which he came--the great western peninsula of Canada, was not properly represented.<sup>9</sup>

DR. CLARKE thought the committee was unfairly constituted towards the western section of the Province. There were applications for charters from every portion of that section not asking for any of the public money, but simply to be allowed to construct railroads with their own money and he thought that there ought to be some gentlemen on the committee who were acquainted with those localities and would be able to give the committee information in regard to the various applications. If it was necessary that the government should have its own supporters on the committee, they might surely find gentlemen who supported them from that section of the Province.<sup>10</sup>

MR. SANBORN did not think the committee ought to be marshalled into platoons to carry out the designs of the government. He thought the committee should not be formed from political or party considerations but that all the important interests of the Province should be fairly represented in it.<sup>11</sup>

MR. SCATCHERD complained of the preponderance of Grand Trunk interest on the committee to the entire exclusion of the West.<sup>12</sup>

MR. FELTON contended that as the government were responsible for the legislation of the House, they ought to have the control of the committees. He ... maintained that railroad men were the most proper persons to put on the committee on the same principle that if they were naming a committee to



amend the laws they would put a preponderance of lawyers on it.<sup>13</sup> In reply to Mr. Macdonald's objection to having on the Committee any one interested in railroads, [he] hinted that the member for Glengary (but without actually mentioning him) was interested in a contract for 50 miles along the Grand Trunk.<sup>14</sup>

MR. BELLINGHAM ... [said] a few words<sup>15</sup>.

MR. HARTMAN pointed out the inconsistency of the honourable member for the county of Sherbrooke (Mr. Felton). That gentleman had given notice of his intention to introduce a resolution declaring that it was inconsistent with the official position of the members of the Executive Council or the Speakers of either House that they should act as Presidents, Secretaries, directors, agents, or solicitors of, or contractors with any railroad or other corporation, and yet he was to-night advocating the very opposite principle and claiming that the railroad committee should be composed entirely of railroad men. The gentleman had taken that ground on the same principle that he would put lawyers on a committee to amend the laws. Now he (Mr. H.) supposed that common sense had something to do with law and that a man of common sense would be quite as competent to act on such a committee as those who had been educated as lawyers. If members who were not connected with railroads were incompetent to act on the railroad committee, they were equally incompetent to act upon railroad questions that came before the House.--He was not at all surprised at the composition of the committee. It was what he had anticipated when he saw how the select committee was composed. He had expected a Grand Trunk committee and was not therefore surprised to find a large proportion of the committee either directly or indirectly interested in the Grand Trunk.--He complained that the largest portion of Upper Canada was not to be represented on the committee except by the honorable and gallant Knight who expected to represent Hamilton.<sup>16</sup>

MR. FELTON replied. The principle on which the resolution of which he had given notice was based was that gentlemen who had private interests in such companies were unfit to be trusted to carry on the government of the country because those private interests might come in conflict with the public interests. No one pretended that a gentleman who had a private interest in a railroad would be a proper person to be put on the committee, but a gentleman could not be said to have a personal interest in a road merely because he represented the section of country through which it passed.<sup>17</sup>

MR. HARTMAN asked if the gentleman did not consider the paid directors of the Grand Trunk and the Presidents of and contractors for other roads personally interested?<sup>18</sup>

MR. FELTON said the select committee had stricken off the name of the honourable member for the town of Sherbrooke (Mr. Galt) merely because he was a contractor. No contractor should be on the committee because he had private interests to subserve which were not the interests of his constituents.<sup>19</sup>

MR. BROWN asked the gentleman to point out the difference between a contractor and a paid director.<sup>20</sup>

MR. FELTON replied that a paid director was merely an agent and stood precisely in the same position as a member of Parliament. A contractor, on the other hand, had private and personal interests in the road.<sup>21</sup>

MR. BROWN would like the gentleman to show how any interest a contractor could have in a road could be affected by any matter which would come before the Railroad committee. His contract was with the Company. The Company alone could be affected by the action of the committee.<sup>22</sup>

MR. FELTON was not sufficiently acquainted with railroad matters to answer the gentleman.<sup>23</sup>

MR. CAMERON had been a member of the Select Committee, and had objected to any person being put on the Railroad Committee who had a pecuniary interest in any road. Had he known that any of the Grand Trunk directors were paid, he should have objected to their being put on the committee. He thought that if there were any gentlemen on the committee, in that position, their names should be stricken off, on the same principle that the Select Committee unanimously resolved that Mr. Galt's name should be taken off.<sup>24</sup>

MR. FERRIE complained that the section of country west of Toronto and St. Catharines--the most important part of Canada, taking into account the exports and imports--was not fairly represented on the committee, and suggested that the name of Mr. Fergusson should be added.<sup>25</sup>

MR. J. MORRISON met the objection that had been raised to having any paid officer of a railway company on a Committee, by declaring his perfect willingness to have his name omitted from the Committee<sup>26</sup> to make room for some gentleman from further West. He thought the political complexion of the committee was fair, being in the proportion of two-thirds ministerialists to one-third opposition, which was about the proportion of the House. He expressed himself strongly in favor of a general railroad law.<sup>27</sup>

MR. CRAWFORD explained that in regard to the pay received from the Grand Trunk Railway Company by the directors, it was in the nature of compensation for their time and travelling expenses in coming down to attend meetings of the Board<sup>28</sup>. [He] was a Grand Trunk director, but did not consider that he received any salary as such. He was paid for his travelling expenses in coming down to attend the meetings of the Board, but was allowed only in proportion to the number of times he attended. If he failed to attend, he received nothing. He was, however, willing that his name should be left off the committee, as he had no railroad interests to attend to that he could not attend to quite as well in the House as in the committee. He had been a member of the Select Committee to nominate committees, at the commencement of the last Parliament, and he was sure that the only object of that committee was to put on the Standing Committees the men who were best acquainted with the business that was to come before them. For instance, they put commercial men, those accustomed to accounts, on the Committee of Accounts, and printers on the Printing Committee.<sup>29</sup> If the same rule was obtained here that is in operation in England, he might refuse to serve on the Committee, on the ground that he was over sixty years of age.<sup>30</sup>

MR. BROWN reminded the gentleman that his name had been stricken off the Printing Committee of the last Parliament, on the ground that he was himself a printer, and that too by the very gentlemen who now contended that railroad men ought to be put on the Railroad Committee.<sup>31</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN reminded gentlemen opposite that he proposed to add the name of Mr. Rankin, who came from the West. He would have no objection to add any other gentleman from the West whose name might be suggested, but it was an ungracious task to move to strike off any of those whose names were on the committee.<sup>32</sup>

MR. BROWN thought the committee was already too large to work well.<sup>33</sup>

MR. CARTIER said that in the last Parliament the committee was 17 out of 84 members; now there are 130 members.<sup>34</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND thought a majority of the House would be satisfied with the com[m]ittee if the Western Section of the Province was more properly represented on it. The government were not to blame for the insufficient representation of that portion of the Province, for the list prepared by them contained the name of Mr. Rankin but it was stricken off by the select committee. Then too that section would be to a great extent represented by Sir Allan McNab and Mr. Hincks the first two men to move in railroad enterprises in this country. As the honorable member for Niagara had generously offered to allow his name to be stricken off; he (Mr. D.) would suggest that the name of Dr. Clarke be substituted for it.<sup>35</sup>

MR. BROWN said that Dr. Clarke came from the same section of country as Mr. Morrison and was also a ministerialist.<sup>36</sup>

MR. ROBLIN thought that if they excluded railroad directors and stockholders from serving on the Railroad committee, they would exclude some of the most intelligent men in the House, and that the time was not far distant when such a rule would exclude all the members of the House.<sup>37</sup>

The Member for Kent ... [MR. LARWILL] stated that the first object in the selection of the Committee ought to be to secure the confidence of the country; to do this, they should take them from different sections of the Province, providing the individuals possessed the material--the requirements necessary to the efficient discharge of those duties which would devolve upon them. He did not attach the importance to this Committee which some gentlemen did; their reports and decisions were subjected to revision by this House. The Committee was not omnipotent. He said some other things<sup>38</sup>.

MR. MCKERLIE said that he was glad the gentlemen on the Treasury benches saw the injustice of the proposed committee and were disposed to make it more acceptable to the House but regretted that the names they proposed to add were those of gentlemen closely and intimately connected with the administration. It might be said that railroad matters had nothing to do with political parties, but nevertheless it was well known that the Grand Trunk Railway was under the complete control of the government. A majority of the members of the administration were directors of that company. He objected to the administration having a preponderance of power in the management of the Grand Trunk or any other railway, surely they had patronage enough without that. His chief objection to the committee however, arose from the injustice done to the western section. He had no objection to Sir A. McNab as a member of the committee but it was well known that the gallant knight was deeply interested in a particular road. Now a charter would be applied for for a road to run almost parallel to that road and there ought to be some one on the committee to counterbalance the influence of Sir Allan.<sup>39</sup>

MR. FERRES could not see on what principle the committee had been formed. The select committee had not been guided by locality, because they had placed on this committee four gentlemen from the country below Quebec, where there were no railroads, whilst they had kept entirely unrepresented the great peninsula of Upper Canada. Nor had they been guided by a knowledge of railroad matters, for there were many gentlemen on the committee who were certainly not conversant with such matters; whilst others, such as the member for Lambton (Mr. Brown) whose profession obliged him to make himself conversant with rail-



road subjects, were omitted. It might have been formed on judicial considerations, for there were 10 lawyers on a committee of 17. He hoped it had not been formed on a party basis, but could not see on what other principle it could have been formed.<sup>40</sup>

MR. LUMSDEN took the ground that nobody interested in railroads should be on the Committee.<sup>41</sup>

DR. ROLPH objected to the Committee principally on the ground that a large portion of the great Western country was not represented in it. He spoke of the tendency to railway consolidation, which showed itself not only in this country and the United States but also in England, as a very dangerous element; and for this reason, insisted that the interests hostile to the Grand Trunk, and especially those in favor of the projected railroad from the Niagara frontier to the head of Lake Erie, should be fairly represented in the Committee (sic).<sup>42</sup>

MR. MARCHILDON, in French, created much merriment by declaring war upon all railways. He said they not only cost more money than they ever did good, but that they frightened the cattle and sometimes killed them--doing more harm than good! In proof of his own great dislike of railways, he stated that he had purchased a property for \$700, and having learned that a railway was to run through or near it, he would be glad to sell it for \$400.<sup>43</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS contended that the first qualification for a member of a Railway Committee was that he should not be opposed to railways. If any question should come up in the Committee in which any particular member of it was interested, delicacy should dictate to him the propriety of abstaining from voting upon it; and if he should not voluntarily take that course, the committee should see that he got no unfair advantage. The next qualification, in his opinion, was a knowledge of railway business. The objection raised to directors as members of the Railway Committee applied also to stockholders; their interests ran in the same direction, and there was scarcely a member of the House who was not in some way interested in some railway. Directors were generally chosen for the knowledge they had of railways, and to exclude them from the Committee would be to reject those best qualified. As to the objection that this or that particular district of the country was not represented, hon. members should remember that they were not the guardians of the interests of a particular section of the public merely, but of the whole country.<sup>44</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE explained why it was that he had voted against the Grand Trunk Railway. He complained of the over-representation in the Committee of Lower Canada, and insinuated that it was so framed as to prevent any charter from being granted to a railroad on the front of Lake Erie.<sup>45</sup>

MR. SOL. GEN. D. ROSS repeated an explanation made by Mr. Morin, at the commencement, that although there were ten Lower Canadians on the committee to seven Upper Canadians, it was intended to change the Commissioner of Crown Lands for Sir Allan McNab, when the latter shall have been re-elected, so that the numbers would stand nine to eight.<sup>46</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE contended that if fair play was not shown to Upper Canada there would be in that section of the Province a cry for the repeal of the Union. He also declared in favor of a general railway bill.<sup>47</sup>

MR. A. DORION dit que le temps était heureusement venu où personne ne

s'opposait plus à la construction des chemins de fer, et il croyait que la meilleure manière de constituer un comité serait de n'y nommer aucun membre qui pût avoir de l'intérêt dans ces entreprises. Que cette règle excluerait tout président et tout directeur des chemins de fer, et cela avec justice, car ces messieurs, à l'ordinaire, avaient intérêt, le plus souvent un intérêt pécuniaire, dans le succès de ces projets. De là il résulte qu'ils se trouvaient disposés à s'opposer aux autres lignes qui pouvaient faire concurrence aux leurs. Il ne doutait guère qu'il pût y avoir de l'avantage à nommer dans ce comité des hommes qui se connaissent dans ces entreprises, mais il pensait aussi qu'il y avait dans la Chambre assez de messieurs possédant cette connaissance, qui n'étaient pas intéressés et qui pouvaient être choisis.

L'autre jour on avait rejeté le nom d'un contracteur parce qu'il était une partie intéressée; à plus forte raison donc, devait-on rejeter les directeurs et présidents. Il ne dit pas que le gouvernement ne devrait pas exercer une certaine influence sur les nominations de ces comités, vu qu'il était responsable, et il pensait que sous tous les rapports, M. le Commissaire des Terres devait être du comité des chemins de fer. Quant au principe que chaque localité devait être représentée dans le comité, il fait remarquer que, si ce principe était invoqué, la ville de Montréal elle-même n'était (sic) pas représentée, non plus que neuf comtés qui l'entourent. Il ne se plaignait pas de cela, quoiqu'il pensait que M. Young était un des membres les plus qualifiés pour ce poste. Si ce principe était adopté, il proposerait de faire représenter dans le comité, la ville de Montréal, qui certes avait fait des sacrifices pour ces chemins tout aussi considérables, et avait à en espérer des bénéfices tout aussi grands qu'aucune partie de la province. Il répéta, pourtant, qu'il ne se plaignait pas de cette omission; ce dont il se plaignait c'était qu'il y avait dans le comité trop de membres du gouvernement.<sup>48</sup>

Mr. Morin's motion was then agreed to, and [the] house proceeded to consider the report of the select committee.<sup>49</sup>

(104)

*The House proceeded to take into consideration the Report of the Select Committee appointed to prepare and report Lists of Members to compose the Select Standing Committees ordered by this House.*

*And the said Report being again read;*

*The Honorable Mr. Morin moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chauveau, and the Question being proposed, That the name of "Mr. Joseph Curran Morrison" be left out of the Committee on Railroads, Canals, and Telegraph Lines, and the names of "Mr. Rankin, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Mongenais" inserted instead thereof;*

MR. BROWN contended that the arguments of the Opposition had not been shaken by the remarks made on the Ministerial side of the House<sup>50</sup> although the gentlemen on the treasury benches had expended a great deal of eloquence on the subject. The members of the opposition had not maintained that no person who had anything to do with a railroad should be placed on the committee, but that the committee should not be packed with such persons.<sup>51</sup> Of the seventeen members of the committee ... only four [were] Opposition.<sup>52</sup> Of the 13 supporters of the government on the committee, 11 were in some way or other connected with railways. Were the government, because they had a majority in the house, to take the control of the whole proceedings of the house into their hands? They ought, perhaps, to have a majority on the com-

mittees, but not such an unfair majority as this--15 ministerialists to 4 opposition members. He could not believe that the house would sustain such an unfair and monstrous proceeding. He objected to the committee because a large majority of those composing it were personally interested in railroads, because the opposition were entirely ignored, and because the western part of the country was not fairly represented upon it.... He wished it to be understood that he had no personal objection to the gentlemen whose names he proposed to strike off, but they were personally and pecuniarily interested in the Grand Trunk, and ought not therefore to be on the committee.<sup>53</sup>

(104)

*Mr. Brown moved in amendment to the Question, seconded by Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion, That all the words after "That" to the end of the Question be left out, and the words "the names of 'Mr. Crawford and Mr. Cartier' be left out of the Committee on Railroads, Canals, and Telegraph Lines, and the names of 'Mr. Sanborn, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Fergusson, and Mr. Mongenais'" inserted instead thereof;*

MR. CARTIER denied that he had any direct interest in the Grand Trunk Railway. He was only its lawyer, just as the member for Toronto, or any other member, might be the lawyer of a bank.<sup>54</sup>

MR. BROWN replied that the solicitor of a bank would be a very improper person to place upon a committee on the subject of banks, and he was sure the honorable member for Toronto would not think for a moment of acting on such a committee.<sup>55</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU combatted the doctrine that railway directors ought not to be on the committee. In the House of Commons, the members of the standing committee on railroads abstained from voting on any particular measure in which they were interested. Why not carry the principle into the House and say that no member should vote on a railroad bill in which he is interested? The member for Lambton spoke as if the government had been packing the committee for their own purposes<sup>56</sup>.

Hear, hear, from MR. BROWN<sup>57</sup>.

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU [continued:] It had been selected by a committee appointed by the House, and the member for Lambton had said at the time that it was as fair a committee as could be chosen.<sup>58</sup>

No, no from MR. BROWN.<sup>59</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU: The hon. member had said so, but he was always ready to eat up his own words when (sic) he found that they told against himself or his friends.<sup>60</sup>

MR. J. DORION, of Drummond, replied, in French to the remark that the committee was not a tribunal whose decisions were final, but must be passed upon by the House, by saying that what the committee recommended, a majority of its members being supporters of the administration, the House would be sure to adopt.<sup>61</sup> Un pareil comité ... devait être choisi par la chambre. Ce qui a lieu actuellement fait voir combien il serait difficile de changer le rapport d'un comité, une fois qu'il serait fait et présenté à la chambre. Son objection principale au comité était qu'un chemin de fer y était trop représenté, et que lorsque le rapport du comité serait présenté, il serait presque impossible de le changer, ou par rapport aux questions graves et importantes, ou par rapport aux détails d'une importance inférieure.<sup>62</sup>



MR. S. SMITH, of Northumberland, had concurred in the remark of the member for Lambton, that the western country was not fairly represented; but he could not agree with him now that he proposed to leave the whole country between Toronto and Cornwall without a single representative on the committee. He (Mr. S.) was not satisfied with the proportion of members proposed to be given to Upper Canada.<sup>63</sup>

MR. CAUCHON said that the committee contained eight Lower Canadians and nine Upper Canadians; and that when the name of Sir Allan Macnab should be substituted for that of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, the committee would be as even as it was last year.<sup>64</sup>

MR. JACKSON said that when he first saw the list he suggested that the name of Mr. Fergusson should be added; but an objection that had since been mentioned by the member for Lambton exists against him; he is the solicitor of the Galt and Guelph railway.<sup>65</sup>

(104)

*And the Question being put on the Amendment; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Aikins, Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Ferres, Ferrie, Frazer, Guvremont, Hartman, Jobin, Laberge, Lumsden, John S. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, McKerlie, Marchildon, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Sanborn, Scatterd, and Wright.--(29.)*

(104-105)

NAYS.

*Messieurs Alleyn, Bell, Bellingham, Burton, Cartier, Casault, Cauchon, Chabot, Chapuis, Chauveau, Church, Clarke, Cooke, Crawford, Crysler, Daly, Delong, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Felton, Fortier, Gill, Huot, Jackson, Langton, Laporte, Larwill, Lemieux, Loranger, Macbeth, McCann, Masson, Meagher, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Munro, Murney, O'Farrell, Patrick, Polette, Pouliot, Powell, Rankin, Robinson, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Stevenson, Taché, and Thibaudeau.--(53.)*

*So it passed in the Negative.*

(105)

*Then the main Question being put, That the name of "Mr. Joseph Curran Morrison" be left out of the Committee on Railroads, Canals, and Telegraph Lines, and the names of "Mr. Rankin, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Mongenais" inserted instead thereof; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

YEAS.

*Messieurs Alleyn, Bell, Bellingham, Burton, Cartier, Casault, Cauchon, Chabot, Chapuis, Chauveau, Church, Clarke, Cooke, Crawford, Crysler, Daly, Delong, Desaulniers, Dionne, Attorney General Drummond, Felton, Fortier, Gill, Huot, Jackson, Langton, Laporte, Larwill, Lemieux, Loranger, Macbeth, McCann, Masson, Meagher, Morin, Joseph C. Morrison, Munro, Murney, O'Farrell, Patrick, Polette, Pouliot, Powell, Rankin, Robinson, Roblin, Solicitor General Ross, James Ross, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Stevenson, Taché, and Thibaudeau.--(53.)*

NAYS.

*Messieurs Aikins, Bourassa, Brown, Bureau, Charles Daoust, Darche, DeWitt, Jean B.E. Dorion, Antoine A. Dorion, Dostaler, Ferris (sic), Ferrie, Frazer,*

Guévremont, Hartman, Jobin, Laberge, Lumsden, John S. Macdonald, Roderick McDonald, Mackenzie, McKerlie, Marchildon, Papin, Prévost, Rolph, Sanborn, Scatcherd, and Wright.--(29.)

*So it was resolved in the Affirmative.*

*The Honorable Mr. Morin moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chauveau, and the Question being put, That this House doth concur with the Committee in the said Report, so amended; the House divided: and the names being called for, they were taken down as in the last preceding Division.*

*So it was resolved in the Affirmative.*

*Ordered, That the Petition of the Catholic Institute of Toronto, and the Petition of L'Institut Canadien of Montreal, be printed for the use of the Members of this House.*

(106)

*Ordered, That the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond have leave to bring in a Bill for giving effect on the part of this Province, to a certain Treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America.*

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND introduced a Bill for giving effect, on the part of this Province, to the Reciprocity treaty with the United States. In doing so, the Hon. member said that, although a short Bill, it was probably the most important one that would be submitted to the consideration of the House this session, or probably for many years to come. It was a Bill to give effect to the provisions of a treaty which it had been the constant object of the Government and people of this Province to obtain for many years past. Public attention was first called to the subject about the year 1846; and since that time the executive Government had been constantly and unwearyingly engaged in endeavoring to induce the Government of the United States to make this treaty.<sup>66</sup> In 1849, this question became one of considerable interest. There was ... an agitation in favor of the imposition of a high duty on all the produce of the United States coming in to this country. It was thought by those who favored that movement that the effect would be to give our farmers better prices.-- The tide was then flowing from the United States to Canada; but it soon turned, and we began to export cattle and produce to the United States.<sup>67</sup> The honorable gentleman ... adverted to the difficulties which Canadian farmers, and especially those in the Eastern Townships and Upper Canada, experienced in sending their produce to the United States; but yet, he remarked, under this state of things, owing to the superiority of Canadian soil, the farmer had prospered. If the farmer did a good business under the old system when his produce had to pay a duty of 20 per cent, what would he do now when he gets his produce free into the United States?<sup>68</sup> Au lieu d'un bénéfice de dix pour cent, tel que retirait aujourd'hui les cultivateurs du Canada qui envoyaient leurs produits aux Etats-Unis, on aurait un bénéfice de vingt à trente pour cent, provenant de l'abolition des droits de douane actuellement prélevés.<sup>69</sup> Even under the existing state of things many farmers had grown rich, what then will the position of the farmer be, when 20 per cent is added to all his income?<sup>70</sup> He dwelt on the beneficial effects it would probably have on Canadian interests, and expressed the opinion that in five years it would double the value of land in many parts of the Province. He referred to the act passed in 1849, to admit certain products of the United States into Canada free of duty, and claimed that the Government and people of Canada had been the first to move in this, as in almost every other, liberal measure.<sup>71</sup> They had all had the satisfaction to see this treaty concluded in a manner much more advantageously than they could have supposed, and at the time when the Government

introduced the Act passed in 1849, which provided "that so far as the United States would admit certain produce from" Canada free of duty, we would admit theirs free, he remembered that there were very few, even in the legislature, through which this act was passed, who thought that it would accomplish an object of so much importance to Canada. The importance of attaining that object, combined with a certain amount of commercial depression which then existed, actually drove a large portion of our people to declare that they would annex themselves to the United States, and that they could no longer endure the miserable position in which they were placed in consequence of the acts of a government over which England had no control. But he confessed that in that part of the country which he represented, not one man could be found from one end of the eastern townships to the other, to sign that annexationist manifesto, had it not been for the commercial depression of the time<sup>72</sup> in which the country had been placed, not by the government of this country, but of that country under which the annexationists wished to place themselves.<sup>73</sup> The effect of this treaty would be, to consolidate our position, to make the people of the country look upon themselves as composed partly of a nation which, when it would have no longer the support of the British government, would be able to sustain itself. Now he would advert to the efforts made by the government of this country to induce that of the United States to enter into such a treaty as would enable us to put the act into force which he had referred to. Since that act had passed the efforts of the executive government of this country had never relaxed one moment; they had constantly, in the midst of the scoffings and jeerings of those who were against the government, continued to insist upon the conclusion of a treaty which would enable them to carry out this act. Various embassy were sent from this country to the United States, and the following members of the government, Mr. Lafontaine, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Hincks, and others, had gone, including Mr. Merritt, who had volunteered to go; it was not surprising that he did, for he had the honor to introduce the measure into that House, and, therefore, he (Mr. Drummond) would be sorry to omit his name. Another hon. member had exerted himself from the outset to carry out this great object.<sup>74</sup> The hon. member for Montreal (Mr. Young) while a member of the government was an ardent advocate of the measure, but now that the Treaty has been concluded, he insists that it is worthless, because it was not obtained before.<sup>75</sup> He (Mr. D.) believed that ten years was a very small portion of time in a nation's history, and he was very willing to struggle for that time to come to achieve a matter of so great importance as the Reciprocity measure.<sup>76</sup> In four years the object, in this case, had been obtained.<sup>77</sup> It was due to the government of that time to say that they endeavored in every possible manner to carry it out,<sup>78</sup> that they never lost sight of the best interests of Canada, that they were deterred by no opposition, and intimidated by no threats, from the pursuit of those objects which would promote the material prosperity of the country.<sup>79</sup> (Hear, hear.) The British government had, however, been pleased to appoint the noble lord at the head of this government an ambassador to the United States to settle this matter. It was a fortunate thing to this country that such a choice should have been made, and that Lord Elgin should have been sent to the United States at the period at which he was. In his place he stood high in the estimation of the people, of the various legislatures of the United States, and especially high in that of the members of Congress. He was the first Governor who had gone from Canada among the people of the United States, and he was the first who was invited to meet them upon great occasion, and when he did he taught them that this British Constitution was not calculated to cramp the



human intellect, or to prevent a man from meeting his fellow man upon equal terms, and of enabling them to show their superiority in point of intellect and capacity.--He was recognized in the United States as a statesman of great intellect--of unrivalled eloquence (hear, hear.) He wished to pay no eulogium upon the noble Lord at the head of the government. Perhaps if he had but newly arrived in this country he (Mr. D.) would not have dared to have uttered one word in his praise, for he was one who had never worshipped the rising sun<sup>80</sup>. His Excellency was going to leave us. To him it is that we owe the success of this measure.<sup>81</sup> He therefore thought that the people of Lower Canada might listen to a few words of eulogium which he had first passed upon the noble Lord; for the very first moment when he arrived in this country he showed to the people that he acted and thought as a Colonist, and was determined to act for Colonial interests rather than for home (oh! oh!) The hon. gentlemen might say "oh!" but soon after that noble Lord arrived in this country he read a despatch which was in opposition to the government with whom he (Mr. D.) stood at that time, and on reading that despatch he found that it was connected with our social interests. It was with regard to the duties upon timber, and it was written in so much of the spirit of a colonist that he could not help declaring that he was the first Governor who had ever written a despatch that an honest heart could feel (hear, hear.) He would say that since that time that noble Lord had identified himself with their interests, and had done more to advance Canada and her resources, and to familiarize our people with the other side of the ocean, than any Governor who ever preceded him, or than any statesman in Canada ever did. It was to that noble Lord they owed the happy conclusion of the Reciprocity Treaty, and he concluded that the circumstances under which that noble Lord went to meet the President of the United States was one of peculiar felicity to enable him to carry out his views, and that it was at a time at which it was known to the government of the United States that the noble Lord was called upon to appear in Canada to open a session of parliament in a few days.<sup>82</sup> When a decision must be had it was important that Lord Elgin was on the spot; for if Reciprocity had not then been obtained, it would have been lost for ever. His Excellency got the matter through in seven days<sup>83</sup> at Congress. All obstacles to the satisfactory arrangement were removed, and His Excellency brought a copy of the treaty in his pocket when he came here. Now that treaty had been published, but in order that every member in the House might have it in his hands, he would move that it be printed. There were various matters in this treaty which concerned Canada to a certain extent. All the matters relating to the fisheries weresuch as could be disposed of by a treaty alone. The only matter upon which they should legislate was the treaty relating to the reciprocal introduction into this country with the United States of certain products. If they looked to the Act passed in 1849, and compared it with the treaty, they would find that a great many articles which were not comprehended in that Act have been by Lord Elgin brought into the treaty. Now it would be found when comparing this list of articles with that contained in the Act of 1849, that certain articles will be admitted into Canada free of duty, which were not countenanced in the Act. He thought that as they had little to do with the ratification of the treaty, which is the Royal prerogative, that it would not be necessary to change the Schedule of the Act of 1849, but upon looking to what had been done in the Congress of the United States; upon seeing that the power to suspend the operation of the 5th Article, under certain circumstances, was given to the United States, he had come to the conclusion, that it would be necessary to make some mention of that treaty in the

bill which he had the honor to lay before the House. He therefore introduced a bill repealing the Act of 1849 entirely, and providing that from the time when His Excellency would issue his proclamation, that all these Articles should be admitted free of duty, subject to be suspended whenever the Act passed in the United States. The treaty upon which this bill was founded, would as he had before stated be completed. A copy of the Act passed by the Congress of the United States was not that sort of document which perhaps ought to be printed here, but he could not see any objection to it if the hon. members of the House would like to see it.<sup>84</sup>

A MEMBER.--It had been published.<sup>85</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND.--Was not aware that it had been, but if hon. members wished to see it, he would lay a copy of it before the House and move that it be printed--the bill that he proposed was very similar. With regard to the species of legislation which was required, he would read a passage from a despatch received from the Duke of Newcastle. To-morrow he intended to propose the second reading of the bill and the third reading also--(hear, hear,)--for he was sure that it was a matter of great importance to the people of Upper and Lower Canada that this bill should be passed immediately. There was a large quantity of lumber and grain<sup>86</sup> and other produce<sup>87</sup> being held back only awaiting the moment when this bill should become law.

(Read passage from despatch of Duke of Newcastle.)

He would now lay the bill before the House, with a copy of the treaty, and a copy of the bill passed by Congress. He moved that the copy of the bill be printed, and that it be read the first time.<sup>88</sup>

(106)

*He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time To-morrow.*

*Then, on motion of Mr. Marchildon, seconded by Mr. Jobin,  
The House adjourned.<sup>89</sup>*





APPENDIX: 21 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: QUEBEC AND ST. FRANCIS MINING COMPANY BILL.]

MR. ALLEYN [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill to incorporate the Quebec and St. Francis Mining and Exploring Company.<sup>90</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH ASSOCIATION AMENDMENT BILL.]

MR. ALLEYN [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill further to amend the Act of Incorporation of British North American Electric Telegraph Association, to enable the said Association to construct branch lines, and to subscribe to Stock in other Electric Telegraph Companies.<sup>91</sup>

[NOTICE OF QUESTION RE: ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.]

MR. C. DAOUST (Beauharnois) [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would enquire] of Ministry, whether it is the intention of Government to modify the Criminal Law of this Province, so as to abolish capital punishment.<sup>92</sup>

[DISCUSSION RE: GOVERNMENT DAYS.]

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN stated that for the present, Tuesdays and Fridays would be considered as the Government days, and the remaining three days of the week would be devoted to private and general business.<sup>93</sup> [He] said that the Government would require two days of the week for the consideration of their measures. Towards the close of the session they might ask three days; but he would not now say what might be required.<sup>94</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE did not object to the Government having two days a week; but he did object that it should not be known what particular measures should come on on any particular day; an irregularity which existed in no other Legislative body.<sup>95</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD said the Government should allow no other than government measures to be taken up on government days.<sup>96</sup>

MR. LANGTON hoped the Government would accede to the suggestion of the member for Haldimand; and let it be known what particular measure was to come on on any particular day.<sup>97</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND said that the object of the Government was to proceed with the business of the country, and particularly with the great measures. He did not believe that on any great measure the House had ever been taken by surprise; and since he had been in the government, there never had occurred an instance in which a desire was expressed by the House for the postponement of a measure where the request had been refused. Government, would, he believed, upon all important measures be able to make it known, eight or ten days before they were to be brought up, on what day they would come on.<sup>98</sup> They would discountenance the transaction of any private business on Government nights.<sup>99</sup>

FOOTNOTES: 21 September 1854.

1. WESTERN PLANET, 4 October 1854, notes that the House met at 4 o'clock p.m.
2. MORNING CHRONICLE, 25 September 1854.
3. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
4. IBID.
5. IBID.
6. IBID.
7. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
8. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
9. IBID.
10. IBID.
11. IBID.
12. IBID.
13. IBID.
14. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
15. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
16. IBID.
17. IBID.
18. IBID.
19. IBID.
20. IBID.
21. IBID.
22. IBID.
23. IBID.
24. IBID.
25. IBID.
26. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
27. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
28. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
29. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
30. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
31. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
32. IBID.
33. IBID.
34. IBID.
35. IBID.
36. IBID.
37. IBID.
38. WESTERN PLANET, 4 October 1854.
39. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
40. IBID.
41. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
42. IBID.
43. IBID.
44. IBID.
45. IBID.
46. IBID.
47. IBID.
48. LE PAYS, 26 September 1854.
49. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
50. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).

51. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
52. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
53. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
54. IBID.
55. IBID.
56. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
57. IBID.
58. IBID.
59. IBID.
60. IBID.
61. IBID.
62. LE PAYS, 26 September 1854.
63. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 28 September 1854 (in Scrapbook Hansard).
64. IBID.
65. IBID.
66. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
67. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854.
68. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
69. LE PAYS, 26 September 1854.
70. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854.
71. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
72. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
73. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854.
74. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
75. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854.
76. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
77. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854.
78. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
79. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
80. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
81. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854.
82. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
83. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854.
84. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
85. IBID.
86. IBID.
87. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
88. PILOT, 28 September 1854.
89. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854, notes that the House adjourned at half-past 11.
90. Telegraph (MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854).
91. IBID.
92. IBID.
93. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.
94. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 29 September 1854.
95. IBID.
96. IBID.
97. IBID.
98. IBID.
99. GLOBE, 27 September 1854.





FRIDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(106)

THE following Petitions were severally brought up, and laid on the table:--

By Mr. Wright,--The Petition of the Reverend J. Fishburn, Pastor, and others, Elders and Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

By Mr. Polette,--The Petition of Edward Burnard, Prothonotary and Clerk of the Crown and Circuit Court of Three Rivers.

By the Honorable Mr. Rolph,--The Petition of Nathan S. Coho and others, of the Township of Middleton, County of Norfolk; the Petition of Townsend Division, No. 141, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; the Petition of the Municipality of the Township of Woodhouse; and the Petition of Moses C. Nickerson and others, of the Counties of Elgin and Norfolk.

By Mr. James Ross,--The Petition of Henry Bull and others.

By Mr. Frazer,--The Petition of Allenburgh Division, No. 164, of the Order of the Sons of Temperance; and the Petition of the Provisional Municipal Council of the County of Welland.

By Mr. Somerville,--The Petition of J.S. Lewis and others, Sons of Temperance, and others.

By Mr. Clarke,--The Petition of John King, M.D., late Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine in the University of Toronto.

By Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion,--The Petition of the Corporation of the Montreal General Hospital.

By Mr. Fortier,--The Petition of the Reverend J. Harper and others, of the Parish of St. Grégoire, County of Nicolet.

By the Honorable John Sandfield Macdonald,--The Petition of C. Claude Grece and others.

By Mr. Alleyn,--The Petition of the President, Directors and Shareholders of the British North American Electric Telegraph Association; and the Petition of the Committee of Management of the National Schools of Quebec.

By Mr. Jean Baptiste Eric Dorion,--The Petition of F.R. Pratte and others, of the Township of Stanfold; the Petition of Louis Pratte and others, of the Township of Stanfold; the Petition of Peter Patterson and others, of the Township of Stanfold; and the Petition of Louis Richard and others, of the Township of Stanfold.

By Mr. Cartier,--The Petition of the Vaudreuil Railway Company; and the Petition of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada.

By the Honorable Mr. Chauveau,--The Petition of the Honorable L. Massue, and others, interested in the Gomin Road, near the City of Quebec.

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By the Honorable Mr. Morin,--The Petition of the Colonization Society of L'Islet and Kamouraska for the settlement of the Saguenay.

By Mr. Prévost,--The Petition of Charles Smallwood, M.D., Secretary--Treasurer of the Terrebonne County Agricultural Society.

Ordered, That Mr. Gamble have leave of absence for three weeks.

Ordered, That Mr. Bowes have leave of absence for two weeks.

Ordered, That Mr. Chisholm have leave of absence for two weeks, on urgent private business.

Ordered, That Mr. Niles have leave of absence for ten days, on urgent private business.

Ordered, That Mr. Yeilding have leave of absence for ten days.

Ordered, That Mr. Gould have leave of absence for ten days, on account of sickness.

Ordered, That Mr. Wilson have leave of absence for two weeks, on account of

ill health.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Foley have leave of absence for two weeks, on account of private business.

*Ordered*, That the Petition of J. Keith and others, of the Circuit of Beauharnois, and the Petition of William Farwell, Esquire, of the Township of Melbourne, in the County of Sherbrooke, Yeoman, be printed for the use of the Members of this House.

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House the following Letter:--

Clerk's Office, Legislative Assembly,  
Quebec, 26th September, 1854.

Sir,--I have the honor to inform you, that in consequence of the absence, through indisposition, of the Clerk Assistant, I have appointed William B. Lindsay, Junior, Esquire, to act as Deputy Clerk Assistant at the table, until Mr. Faribault shall be so far recovered as to enable him to resume his duties.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most humble and obedient Servant,

Wm. B. Lindsay,  
Clerk, Legislative Assembly.

The Honorable The Speaker  
of the Legislative Assembly.

The Honorable Mr. Chauveau, one of Her Majesty's Executive Council, presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor General, the Public Accounts for the year 1853.

For said Accounts, see Appendix (D.)

Also, Tables of the Trade and Navigation of the Province of Canada, for the year 1853.

For the said Tables, see Appendix (A.)

Also, Report of the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada, for the year 1853.

For the said Report, see Appendix (B.)

Also, Municipal Returns for Upper Canada, under the Act 16 Vic. cap. 163.

For the said Returns, see Appendix (K.)

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Also, Report of the Progress made in the Geological Survey of the Province, in the years 1852-53.

For the said Report, see Appendix (L.)

And also, Bursar's Return of the University and College at Toronto, and of Upper Canada College, for the year 1853.

For the said Return, see Appendix (M.)

On motion of Mr. Loranger, seconded by Mr. Fortier,

*Resolved*, That this House disapproves of the Warrant of the Honorable the Speaker, appointing the Honorable William Hamilton Merritt, Antoine Polette, Esquire, John Sewall Sanborn, Esquire, Joseph Curran Morrison, Esquire, John Langton, Esquire, and Antoine Aimé Dorion, Esquire, all Members of this House, to compose the General Committee of Elections for the present Session, and laid on the table of this House on the 19th September instant; but in so far only as the said Warrant relates to and appoints the said Antoine Aimé Dorion to form part of the said Committee.

*Ordered*, That the Honorable Mr. Cameron have leave to bring in a Bill to



amend the Municipal Corporations Act.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be a read a second time on Thursday the twenty-sixth day of October next.

Ordered, That Mr. Fortier have leave to bring in a Bill to enforce the enregistration of Titles to Lands in the Townships of Lower Canada.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be [read] a second time on Wednesday the fourth day of October next.

Ordered, That Mr. Charles Daoust have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Act of last Session relative to the enregistration of the Articles of Clerkship of Law Students.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday next.

On motion of Mr. Charles Daoust, seconded by Mr. Darche,

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House, the documents and the information required for the clearing up and solution of the following Questions: 1. What school-houses or lots of land not yet built upon did the School Commissioners of the Parish of Longueuil possess in the Village of Longueuil when the School Act 9 Vic. cap. 27, came into operation? 2. What lots of land built upon or not built upon have the School Commissioners acquired in the said Village of Longueuil, from the time when the said School Act came into operation to the present time, whether by donation or by purchase, describing the titles and the lots, and giving communication of the titles if possible? 3. What lots of land vacant or built upon situated in the said Village of Longueuil have the said School Commissioners alienated either by donation or by sale from the time mentioned to the present time, describing the titles and the lots, with copies of the titles, and of the authority or authorities granted by the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada to alienate the same? 4. What school-houses have the said Commissioners built in the said Village of Longueuil since the time before specified? 5. What sums of money have the said Commissioners

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received from the Government, since the time above mentioned, for the building or repair of school-houses in the said Village of Longueuil, with a description of the lot or lots of land on which such sums of money were expended, or to which they were appropriated? 6. How many and what school-houses do the said Commissioners now possess in the said Village of Longueuil, and under what titles do they possess them?

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General by such Members of this House as are of the Honorable the Executive Council of this Province.

Ordered, That Mr. Bellingham have leave to bring in a Bill to constitute the Electoral County of Argenteuil into a separate Municipality.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday the twentieth day of October next.

Ordered, That Mr. Ferres have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Interpretation Act in so far as it relates to Holidays.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday the

fourth day of October next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Sanborn have leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Law of Patent for Inventions.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday the sixth day of October next.

Mr. Fortier moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph Curran Morrison, and the Question being put, That from Monday next until the close of the present Session, Mr. Speaker do leave the Chair from six o'clock to seven o'clock in the afternoon; the House divided:--And it was resolved in the Affirmative.

The Honorable Jean Chabot, Member for the County of Bellechasse, and also for the City of Quebec, made his Election to serve for the City of Quebec.

On motion of MR. POULIOT,<sup>1</sup>

(109)

*Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the County of Bellechasse, in the room of the Honorable Jean Chabot who has made his Election to serve for the City of Quebec.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Sanborn have leave to bring in a Bill to improve the Law relating to Betterment.

He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday the thirteenth day of October next.

On motion of MR. COM. PUB. WORKS CHABOT,<sup>2</sup>

(109)

*Ordered*, That the Report of the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada, for the year 1853, be printed for the use of the Members of this House.

The Order of the day for the second reading of the Bill for giving effect on the part of this Province, to a certain Treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America, being read;

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND moved the second reading of the bill<sup>3</sup>.

(110)

The Honorable Mr. Morin, a Member of the Executive Council, by command of His Excellency the Governor General, acquainted the House, That His Excellency having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his consent, as far as Her Majesty's interest is concerned, that the House may do therein as they shall think fit.

MR. J.S. MACDONALD did not wish to obstruct the passage of this important measure, but it was the rule of the House, as well as of the Imperial Parliament, that all measures which were to affect trade should be originated in Committee of the whole, who ordered the bill to be brought in.<sup>4</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN said there was no such rule.<sup>5</sup>

MR. J.S. MACDONALD referred to the practice on the subject in the House of Commons, and to the bill brought into the Canadian Parliament, in 1847, in regard to Customs by Mr. Cayley. The rules of this House he submitted should not be trampled (*sic*) down.<sup>6</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND did not anticipate that any difficulty would be placed

in the way of passing this bill by hon. members. He denied that any such rule existed as Mr. Macdonald had alluded to. In the Imperial Parliament the rule was to go into Committee of the Whole, before a bill could be passed which throws a charge or tax upon the people; but the bill under consideration was quite a different thing, the object being to relieve the people from certain charges. (Hear, hear.)<sup>7</sup>

MR. BROWN held that the rule existed in England that every measure affecting trade or religion should have its origin in a Committee of the whole. He cited two acts of Parliament passed in the years 1702 and 1703 to prove his position.<sup>8</sup>

MR. SMITH (Durham) said there was no such rule in the Canadian Parliament.<sup>9</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE was of the other opinion, and did not like to be taken by surprise in having such a bill brought before the House without going through Committee.<sup>10</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND had no idea of being bound down by a rule passed in 1703,--no rule now existed.<sup>11</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU.--The rule here was that upon matters where the public revenue is affected and a new burden is imposed upon the people, that they were to go into committee but not otherwise.<sup>12</sup>

MR. BROWN.--The House did last year upon the Cathedral Bill.<sup>13</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU.--That was a bill imposing burdens upon the people--this was vice versa.<sup>14</sup>

MR. MERRITT.--Although there might be a rule regulating the matter, if the government wished to introduce it in this way he should go with them.<sup>15</sup>

The discussion continued much in the same strain, and the result was that MR. SICOTTE the SPEAKER decided in favor of going on with the measure.<sup>16</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND then said that some anxiety prevailed<sup>17</sup> [among] Honorable members<sup>18</sup> to know how soon the legislature of the other Provinces would take action on this subject. The legislature of Prince Edward was called for the despatch of business on the 26th of September, and would undoubtedly pass a bill for this purpose unanimously. In New Brunswick there was a small party opposed to the treaty, and it was supposed that our action would influence to a very great extent the deliberations of the legislature of that Province, and also of Nova Scotia. (Hear, hear.) The legislature of New Brunswick was called together for the 17th of October, but not for the despatch of business; that of Nova Scotia<sup>19</sup> on the 21st of Sept.,<sup>20</sup> but not for the despatch of business. Information had, however, been received from Sir Edmond Head, that the legislature of New Brunswick would meet in October for the despatch of business. It was very desirable that this bill should be passed immediately, not only with a view of influencing the proceedings of the other Colonial legislatures, but also in the hope that some arrangement might be come to with the U.S. authorities, by which the officers in the employment of the customs on both sides of the lines might be empowered to give immediate effect to the treaty. (Loud cries of hear, hear.) He did not know whether that object could be attained, but he was sure the government would strain every nerve to effect it.<sup>21</sup> This Bill had been drawn up as near as possible to suit that passed by Congress.<sup>22</sup>

MR. MERRITT thought that it was of the greatest importance to the country that they should understand at once whether the Treaty was to be carried out immediately. It was his (Mr. M's) opinion when he came down here that there was no obstacle



whatever to the immediate operation of the Bill so as to be in time for the fall trade, but since he had been here he had found by the terms of the Treaty that an Act of the Imperial Parliament would be necessary before it could go into operation. He thought that no false hopes ought to be held out to the country that would induce the people to hold in their produce, but that they should be informed as soon as possible whether or not the Bill could go into immediate operation.<sup>23</sup> He knew that goods have been kept back with the idea that this Bill would go into operation this winter.<sup>24</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND replied that it was a matter which depended on negotiation and of course the government could not pledge itself for the Government of the U.S., but<sup>25</sup> it was the determination of the government to do all in their power to have the arrangement immediately carried out.<sup>26</sup> Measures would be immediately taken to ascertain whether the President of the U.S. would take upon himself to give those instructions which the Governor General was prepared to give to the officers of the Customs department.<sup>27</sup>

MR. MERRITT inquired if that could be done before the passage of an Act by the Imperial Parliament.<sup>28</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND replied that undoubtedly the Treaty could not be fully carried out before the passage of an Act by the Imperial Parliament removing those legislative enactments which stood in the way of its accomplishment, but by common consent of the U.S. and Canadian authorities, the Treaty could be carried out so far as this Province was concerned. He thought it very likely from the manner in which they had been met by the Canadian authorities that the Government of the U.S. would consent to such an arrangement.<sup>29</sup> Measures will be taken to secure that immediately.<sup>30</sup>

MR. CAMERON did not see any difficulty in the way of this treaty going into effect at once, as the Imperial statute did not affect them. They were enabled by any arrangement they could make with the United States to receive their goods and raw material into this country free of duty. The Act of George III, did not present any barrier, and it affects only the Imperial interest in the Fisheries. As far as the different Legislatures of these Provinces were concerned he had not the slightest doubt in the world that the moment each Legislature passes its Bill, which refers to their own products, that the United States would never stand in the way, and that if these Provinces unite in the matter, the United States would come in.<sup>31</sup>

Some further conversation [ensued]<sup>32</sup>.

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*The Bill was then read a second time.*

*Ordered, That the Bill be now read the third time; and the Rules of this House suspended as regards the same.*

*The Bill was accordingly read the third time.*

*Resolved, Nemine contradicente, That the Bill do pass.*

*And the Names of the Members present being called for, they were taken down, as follow:--*

*Messieurs Aikins, Bell, Bellingham, Biggar, Blanchet, Brown, Bureau, Cameron, Cartier, Casault, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Church, Clarke, Cooke, Crawford, Crysler, Charles Daoust, Darche, Delong, Antoine Aimé Dorion, Attorney General Drummond, Felton, Ferres, Ferrie, Fortier, Frazer, Hartman, Huot, Jackson, Jobin, Liberge, Langton, Laporte, Larwill, Lemieux, Loranger, John Sandfield Macdonald, Mackenzie, McCann, McKerlie, Merritt, Morin, Joseph Curran Morrison, Munro, Murney, O'Farrell, Papin, Pouliot, Powell, Prévost, Rankin, Rhodes, Robinson, Rolph,*

Solicitor General Ross, Sanborn, Scatcherd, Sidney Smith, James Smith, Southwick, Stevenson, Thibaudeau, and Wright.

*Ordered*, That the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond do carry the Bill to the Legislative Council, and desire their concurrence.

On motion of MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN<sup>33</sup>,

(110)

*Resolved*, That this House will, at the rising of the House this day, adjourn until To-morrow at half-past Two o'clock in the afternoon.

The Order of the day for the second reading of the Bill to compel the attendance of Witnesses before the Superior Courts in any part of Canada, being read;

MR. CAMERON moved the second reading of this Bill, and stated briefly the objects of it;--namely, to compel the attendance of witnesses in the Superior Courts of any part of Canada.<sup>34</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE thought the provisions of the Bill unjust, and it was not reasonable to expect to drag a man from many hundred miles to the Court in order that his testimony might be taken, and, at the whim of interested lawyers. There was less trouble in taking his evidence by Commission.<sup>35</sup>

MR. LORANGER made a few remarks, and would support the Bill on general grounds.<sup>36</sup>

MR. FERRES said a few words to the effect, that he would not object to the principles of the Bill, if proper payment for witnesses were provided for. He thought that although a man might be asked to give up one day of his time for the sake of justice, he should not be asked to give up several without proper compensation.<sup>37</sup>

MR. O'FARRELL was in favor of the principle of the Bill.<sup>38</sup>

MR. SANBORN opposed the Bill in toto, as being inconsistent with the spirit of Lower Canadian laws.<sup>39</sup>

MR. S. SMITH held that the bill was much needed, and that it would be a benefit to the country.<sup>40</sup>

MR. CAMERON replied: He said that if the bill were inconsistent with the laws of Lower Canada, that was no reason why an act of justice should not be done to Upper Canada. In the United Kingdom the principle on which his bill was founded prevailed. If ever Upper and Lower Canada were to become really united, it must be by making a homogeneous system of jurisprudence. He was free to admit that there were many things in the law of Lower Canada that he preferred to those of Upper Canada.<sup>41</sup>

(110)

The Bill was accordingly read a second time; and referred to a Select Committee, composed of the Honorable Mr. Cameron, the Honorable John Sandfield Macdonald, Mr. Joseph Curran Morrison, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Cartier, Mr. Loranger, and Mr. Antoine Aimé Dorion, to report thereon with all convenient speed; with power to send for persons, papers, and records.

A Message from the Legislative Council, by John Fennings Taylor, Esquire, one of the Masters in Chancery:--

Mr. Speaker,

The Legislative Council have passed the Bill, intituled, "An Act for giving effect on the part of this Province, to a certain Treaty between Her Majesty and

the United States of America," without any Amendment.

And then he withdrew.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Chabot, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Attorney General Drummond,

The House adjourned.



APPENDIX: 22 SEPTEMBER 1854.

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: BILL FOR ELECTION BY BALLOT IN LOWER CANADA.]

MR. A. DORION--(Montreal) [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move for leave to introduce a] Bill for the better securing the freedom of elections by the use of the Ballot in Lower Canada.<sup>42</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION: ADDRESS FOR BYTOWN AS SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.]

MR. PATRICK [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move an] Address to Ais (sic) Excellency the Governor General, representing to His Excellency that in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived when a different and much more satisfactory (sic) arrangement may be made as regards the plan ... of convening Barliament (sic) than [at] present exists.

That the present system of alternate Parliaments is inconsistent with a proper regard to the ... economical expenditure of public money, uncalled for by the necessities of the Country, injurious to the preservation and methodical arrangement of the Public Archives and Library, and productive of great inconvenience and injustice to permanent officers in the Public Departments and that the same ought to be changed and a permanent place selected for the Assembling of Parliament, suited as far as possible to the convenience of all sections of the Province.

That with the view of removing every obstacle that may have a tendency to hinder, or in any way interfere with the well working of the Union, this House most respectfully begs leave to His Excellency, that after the next Session, His Excellency will be pleased to convene the Parliament at the Town of Bytown, its location being on the boundary line of the two Provinces, and of easy access from both its sections, and at a suitable distance from the frontier, so that security may be attained in case of disturbance with a foreign foe, and being in every other respect suitable for such purpose.

That in the opinion of this House ample accommodation should be provided at Bytown for the residence of the Governor General, for the two House[s] of Provincial Parliament, and for the various departments of the Public Service, with as little delay as possible.<sup>43</sup>

[NOTICE OF MOTION RE: RESOLUTION FOR REPEAL OF UNION.]

MR. MARCHILDON [gave notice that] on Monday next [he would move] a resolution, having for its object to point out to the Imperial Government the injustice of the union of Upper and Lower Canada, and praying for its repeal.<sup>44</sup>

[QUESTION AND ANSWER RE: BILL TO MAKE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES CONFORMABLE TO NEW ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.]

MR. SANBORN [asked a question.]<sup>45</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND stated that it was the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill to make County Municipalities conformable to the new electoral division of Counties.<sup>46</sup>

[QUESTION AND ANSWER: PRESIDENT OF BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE.]

MR. BROWN inquired of the ministry whether Sir Allan MacNab was President of the Bureau of Agriculture.<sup>47</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN replied that there was an order of Council attaching

the office of President of the Bureau of Agriculture to that of Chairman of Committee of Executive Council, and Sir Allan MacNab was Chairman of those Committees.<sup>48</sup>

MR. BROWN was sure it would give the agriculturists of Upper Canada great satisfaction to know that so eminent an agriculturist, as the hon. and gallant Knight, had been placed at the head of that bureau. (Hear, hear, and laughter.)<sup>49</sup>

[QUESTION AND ANSWER: COMPLAINTS AGAINST JOHN MAGUIRE, QUEBEC POLICE MAGISTRATE.]

MR. FERRES [asked a question.]<sup>50</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND stated in answer ... that all the complaints against Mr. McGuire, Police Magistrate at Quebec, had been set down.<sup>51</sup>

[QUESTION AND ANSWER: NORMAL SCHOOL IN LOWER CANADA.]

MR. A. DORION of Montreal enquired of the Ministry, what are the reasons which have hitherto prevented the establishment of a Normal School in Lower Canada, in conformity with the Act passed in 1851, (15 Vic. c. 97,) and whether it is the intention of the Government to have the said school opened.<sup>52</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU replied that it was the intention of the Government to establish one or more Normal Schools in Lower Canada. The question was one which had occupied the attention of the Government for some time.<sup>53</sup> [He] stated that the Normal School for Lower Canada would be commenced immediately. That it had not yet been begun because the buildings were not in a fit state and required repairs which in their opinion would require a grant of money<sup>54</sup>. L'Ecole Normale dont il s'agissait n'avait pas été mise en opération parce que l'octroi de la Législature était insuffisant pour entreprendre la construction d'un édifice convenable à cet objet.

... La maison acquise par le gouvernement, et surtout le terrain qui en dépendait, n'était pas assez spacieux.

... La plus grande difficulté à surmonter, cependant, avait été de trouver un plan praticable pour réunir dans cette institution les différentes origines et les différentes croyances.<sup>55</sup>

It had been thought desirable not to commence the school until everything could be done in a regular and complete manner. In order to provide for that regular and complete man[ner] of proceeding he had gone to Upper Canada, and had there instituted inquiries into the best manner of conducting such establishments gathering his information as well from individual teachers as from religious communities.<sup>56</sup> He ... had visited the Normal School at Toronto, and he was satisfied that whether they established entirely separate schools or not, they would have to make a separation between the different sects. (Hear, hear.)<sup>57</sup> It was probable that there must be encouragement given to the churches of Rome, of England, and to the other religious societies together.<sup>58</sup> Not establish separate schools for each sect, but for the Church of England and the Church of Rome. (Hear, hear.) However, the views of the Government were not finally settled about that matter. All that was finally settled was that they would certainly establish one or more Normal Schools in a short time in Lower Canada. (Hear, hear.)<sup>59</sup>

MR. BROWN ... [a] demandé des explications ultérieures sur le nombre de divisions de sectes que le gouvernement entendait faire.<sup>60</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU répondit qu'il y aurait une division pour les catholiques, une pour les membres appartenant à la haute église et à l'église d'Ecosse

réunies, et une troisième pour les sectes dissidentes.<sup>61</sup>

MR. BROWN inquired if these were the views of the late or the newly organized government?<sup>62</sup>

MR. PROV. SEC. CHAUVEAU replied, the newly organized one, but their views were not yet finally settled.<sup>63</sup>

MR. MACKENZIE suggested that they were in a transition state.<sup>64</sup>

[QUESTION AND ANSWER: TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM CANADA.]

MR. RHODES enquired of the ministry, whether they will place before the House such information as they are in possession of, relative to the removal of a large majority of Her Majesty's forces from this Province, so as to enable this House to make such provision as may be considered necessary under the circumstances.<sup>65</sup>

MR. COM. CR. LANDS MORIN replied that it was the intention of the Government to do so.<sup>66</sup>

[WITHDRAWN MOTION: RETURN RELATIVE TO MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.]

MR. FERRES moved for a return relative to Municipal Debentures, but on the statement by the Government that the return would fill a very large volume, Mr. Ferres said he would withdraw his motion and move for a committee of enquiry when the Inspector General came into the House.<sup>67</sup>

[WITHDRAWN MOTION: SECULARIZATION OF CLERGY RESERVES.]

DR. FRAZER (in behalf of Mr. Foley who is absent) moved for leave to introduce a Bill "to provide for the secularization of the lands commonly known as the Clergy Reserves, and to appropriate the proceeds thereof to Common School purposes."<sup>68</sup>

MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND said that it really seemed as if Mr. Foley intended to take the business of the Government out of the hands of the Government. (Hear, hear.) That gentleman knew that this subject was alluded to in the speech, and that the Government were going to bring in a measure in regard to it. He (Mr. D.) hoped the gentleman would let the matter stand until Mr. Foley's return.<sup>69</sup>

MR. CAMERON asked how the Crown Lands could be disposed of without the consent of the Crown and on the motion of a private member.<sup>70</sup>

After a few words from MR. MACKENZIE, DR. FRAZER withdrew his motion.<sup>71</sup>

[ANNOUNCEMENT RE: LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING ON RECIPROCITY BILL.]

In the House of Assembly last night MR. AT. GEN. DRUMMOND announced that the Legislative Council had agreed to meet at 8 o'clock to take up the Reciprocity Bill.<sup>72</sup>



FOOTNOTES: 22 SEPTEMBER 1854.

1. MORNING CHRONICLE, 25 September 1854.
2. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
3. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
4. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
5. IBID.
6. IBID.
7. PILOT, 26 September 1854.
8. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
9. IBID.
10. IBID.
11. IBID.
12. IBID.
13. IBID.
14. IBID.
15. IBID.
16. IBID.
17. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
18. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
19. GLOBE, 28 September 1854. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854, reports that the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly was called together for 26 October.
20. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854. GLOBE, 28 September 1854, reports that the Nova Scotia Legislative Assembly was called together for 20 September.
21. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
22. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
23. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
24. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
25. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
26. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
27. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
28. IBID.
29. IBID.
30. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
31. IBID.
32. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
33. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
34. PILOT, 26 September 1854.
35. IBID.
36. IBID.
37. IBID.
38. IBID.
39. IBID.
40. IBID.
41. IBID.
42. MORNING CHRONICLE, 25 September 1854.
43. IBID.
44. IBID.
45. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 23 September 1854.
46. IBID.
47. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
48. IBID.

49. IBID.
50. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 23 September 1854.
51. IBID.
52. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
53. IBID.
54. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
55. LE PAYS, 26 September 1854.
56. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
57. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
58. MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854.
59. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
60. LE PAYS, 26 September 1854.
61. IBID.
62. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
63. IBID.
64. IBID.
65. IBID.
66. GLOBE, 28 September 1854. Telegraph (PILOT, 25 September 1854), reports that Mr. Dorion replied to Mr. Rhodes. Telegraph (GLOBE, 26 September 1854), reports that Mr. Drummond replied.
67. HAMILTON SPECTATOR, 23 September 1854.
68. GLOBE, 28 September 1854.
69. IBID.
70. IBID.
71. IBID.
72. MORNING CHRONICLE, 23 September 1854.





SATURDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 1854.

(111)

MR. Speaker communicated to the House the following Letter:--

Government House,  
Quebec, 23d September, 1854.

Sir,--I have the honor, by command of the Governor General, to inform you, that it is His Excellency's intention to proceed to the Legislative Council Chamber to-day, at Three o'clock, to assent, in Her Majesty's Name, to a certain Bill passed by the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

L. Oliphant.

The Honorable the Speaker  
of the Legislative Assembly.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor General, by René Kimber, Esquire, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod:--

Mr. Speaker,

His Excellency the Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Legislative Council Chamber.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the House, went to the Legislative Council Chamber;

And being returned;

Mr. Speaker reported, That agreeable to the commands of His Excellency the Governor General, the House had attended upon His Excellency in the Legislative Council Chamber, where His Excellency was pleased to give, in Her Majesty's Name, the Royal Assent to the following Bill:

An Act for giving effect on the part of this Province, to a certain Treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America.

Then, on motion of the Honorable Mr. Morin, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Chauveau,

The House adjourned until Monday next.

## PROPER NAME INDEX

### INTRODUCTION

The following Index applies only to the names of men who were members of the Legislative Assembly in the Fifth Parliament, First Session, First Part, for the period covered in this part of the Volume XII, that is 5th to 23rd September 1854 inclusive. It refers to every occasion a member proposed or seconded a motion or resolution, or brought up a petition; it refers to every speech he delivered during debates, and to every other time he addressed the House or took the chair of the House in Committee of the Whole. Only individual votes are excluded because divisions rightfully belong with the legislation they pertain to, and all legislation is included in the subject Index.

As explained in the Introduction to Volume XII, Part I, the subject Index for the entire volume will be contained in the final part.

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\* The MORNING CHRONICLE, 26 September 1854, identifies the speaker only as Mr. Smith (Durham). Mr. J. Smith (Victoria) was member for Durham in the Fourth Parliament. However, this being the Fifth Parliament, there is a slight possibility that the reporter is referring to either the present member for Durham East or Durham West; or to Mr. S. Smith (Northumberland West).















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